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Title

GUARDIANS of the HORIZON

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GUARDIANS OF THE HORIZON

REWRITING THE LEGACY
OF AGUASCALIENTES'S
MESOAMERICAN PAST



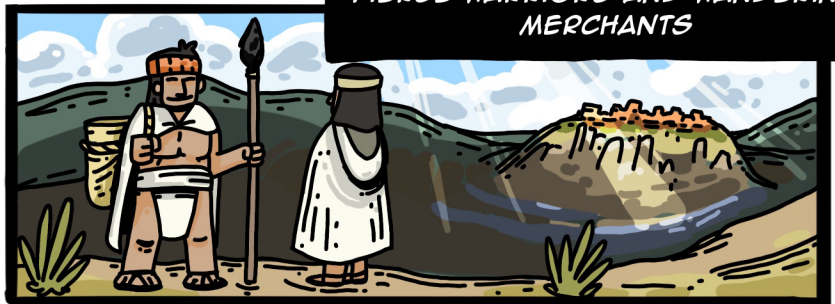
THE NORTHERN FRONTIER OF MESOAMERICA, A REGION OF EXPANSION AND CULTURAL CONTACT, IS OFTEN PERCEIVED AS AN AREA OF CONSTANT CONFLICT AND VIOLENCE.

THIS PERCEPTION, INFLUENCED BY A EUROCENTRIC PERSPECTIVE, TENDS TO EXAGGERATE VIOLENCE AND CONFLICTS, APPLYING EUROPEAN CRITERIA AND EXPECTATIONS TO MESOAMERICAN SOCIETIES.

THERE IS A PLACE FORGOTTEN BY TIME



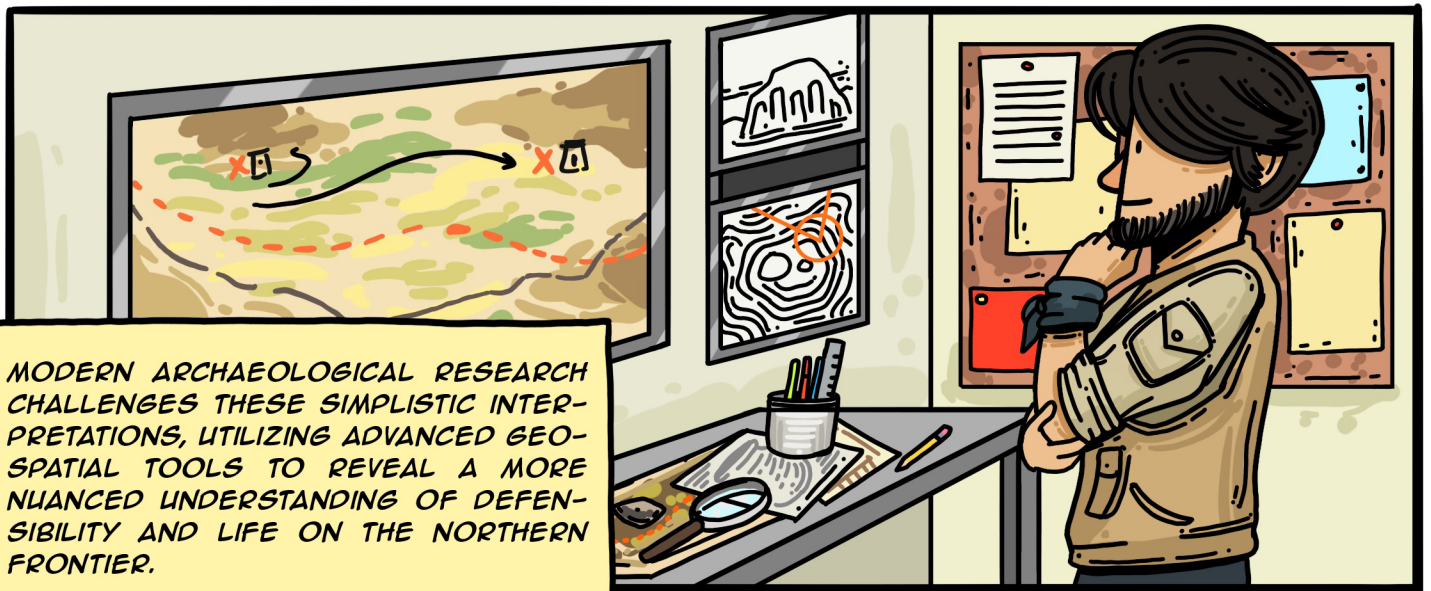
A TOWN FORGED BY THE SUN,
FIERCE WARRIORS AND WANDERING
MERCHANTS



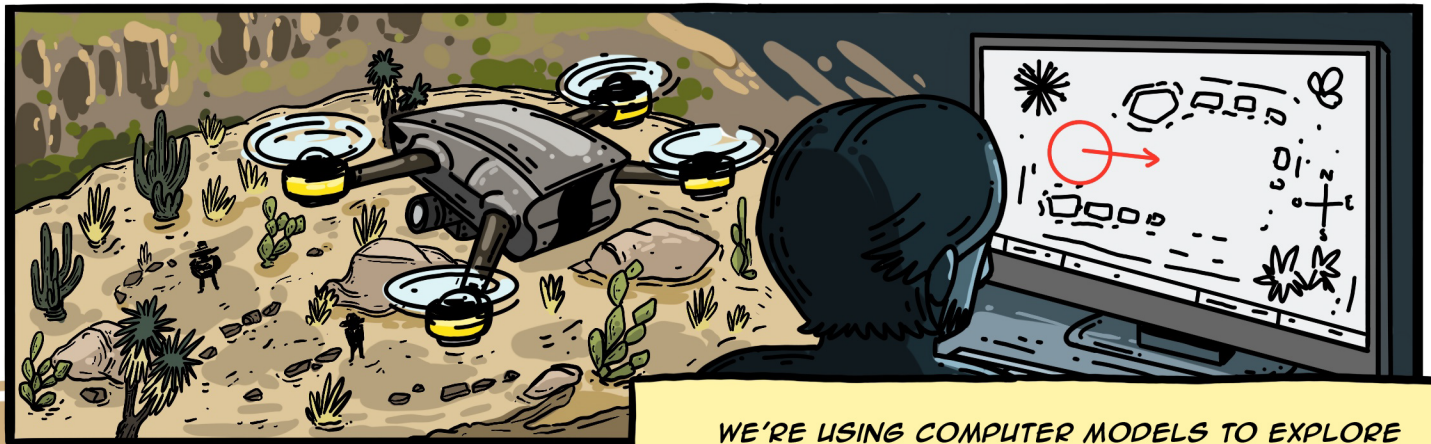
PEOPLE WHO LIVED ON THE HEIGHTS
OF A HILL BETWEEN TWO RIVERS



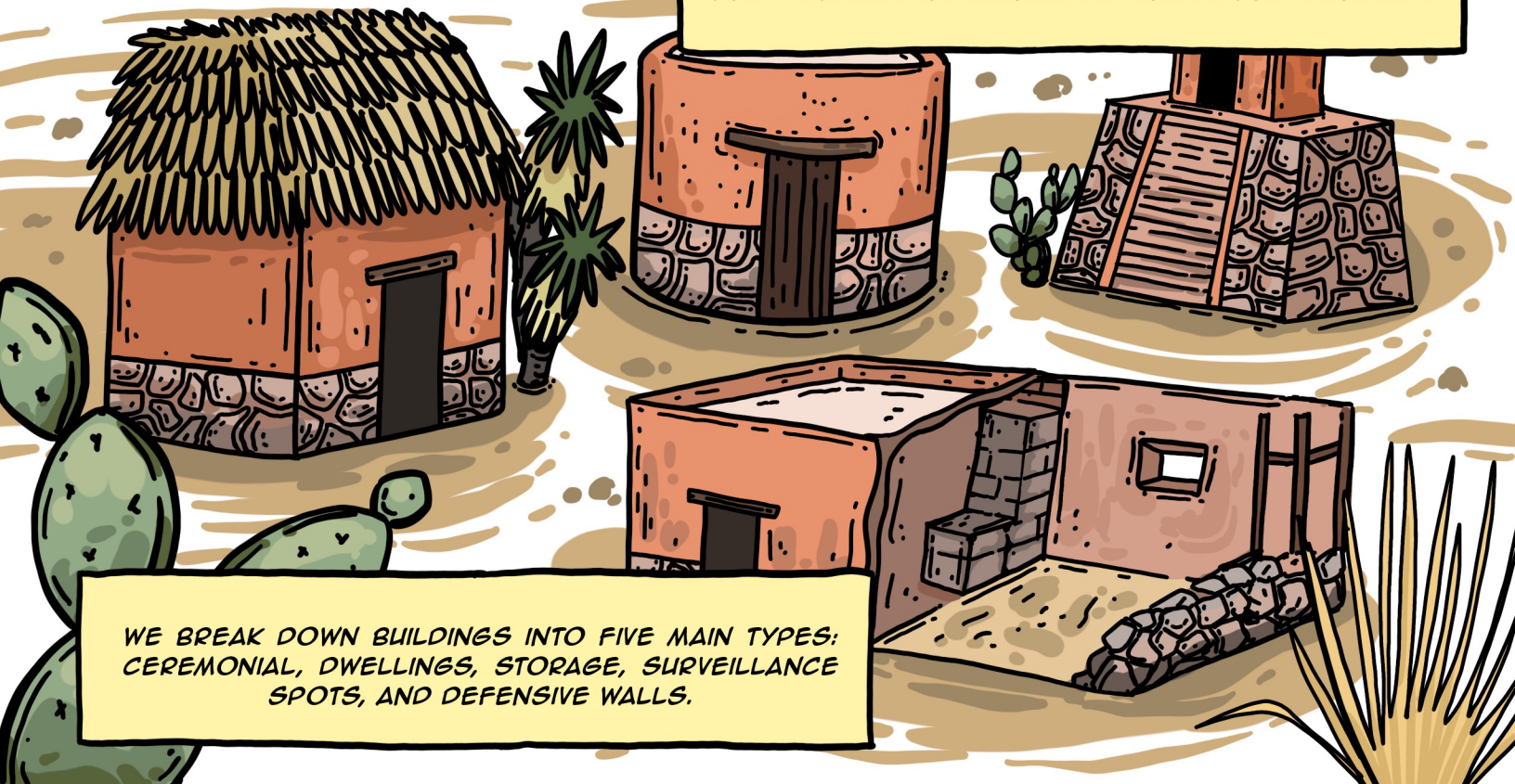
THEY WERE THE PEOPLE OF: "EL CERRO DE EN MEDIO"



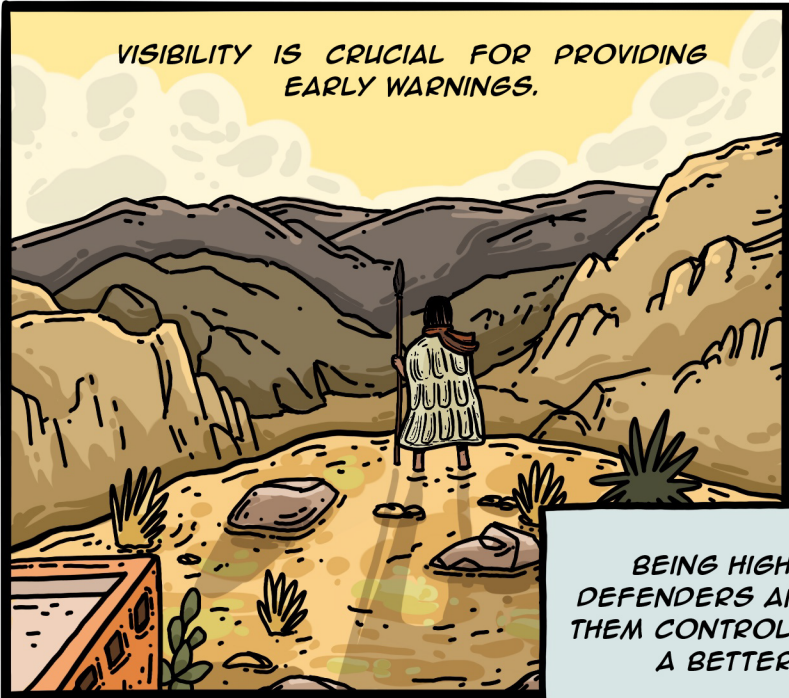
MODERN ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH CHALLENGES THESE SIMPLISTIC INTERPRETATIONS, UTILIZING ADVANCED GEOSPATIAL TOOLS TO REVEAL A MORE NUANCED UNDERSTANDING OF DEFENSIBILITY AND LIFE ON THE NORTHERN FRONTIER.



WE'RE USING COMPUTER MODELS TO EXPLORE ASPECTS LIKE VISIBILITY, ELEVATION, AND ACCESSIBILITY, AND HOW THEY INFLUENCE DEFENSES AND CONFLICT.



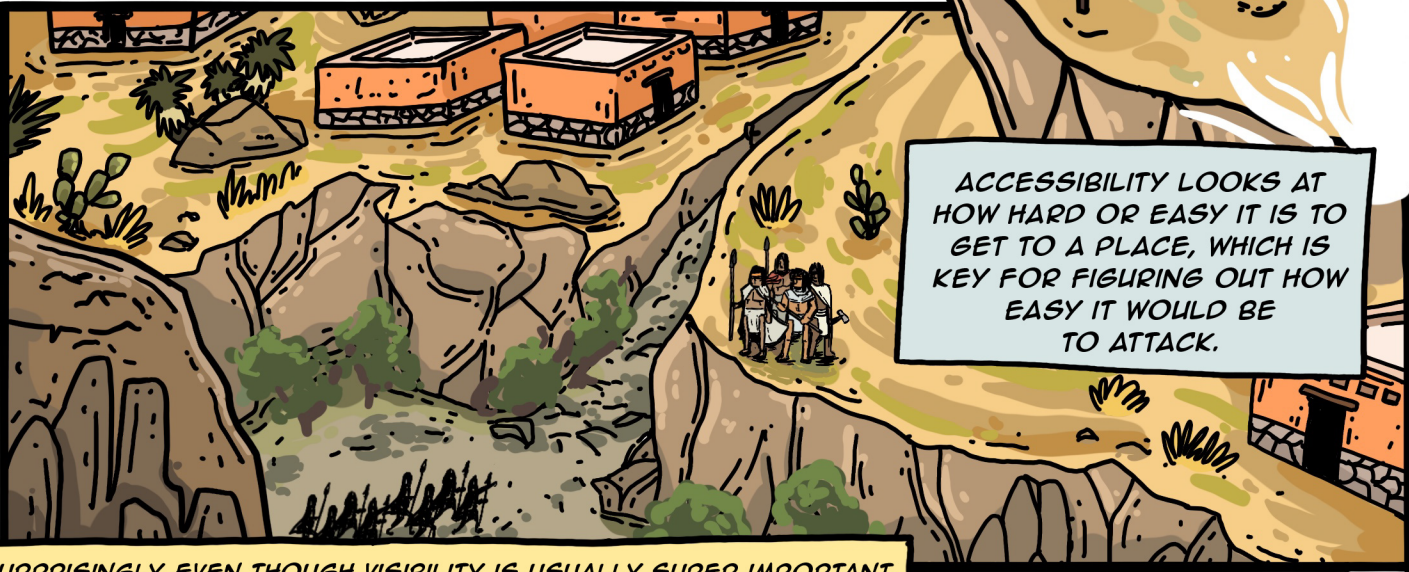
WE BREAK DOWN BUILDINGS INTO FIVE MAIN TYPES: CEREMONIAL, DWELLINGS, STORAGE, SURVEILLANCE SPOTS, AND DEFENSIVE WALLS.



VISIBILITY IS CRUCIAL FOR PROVIDING EARLY WARNINGS.

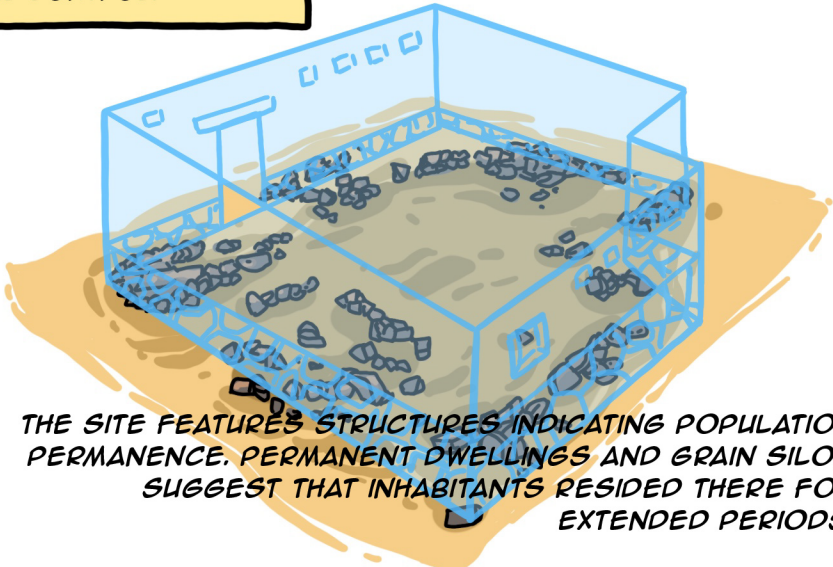
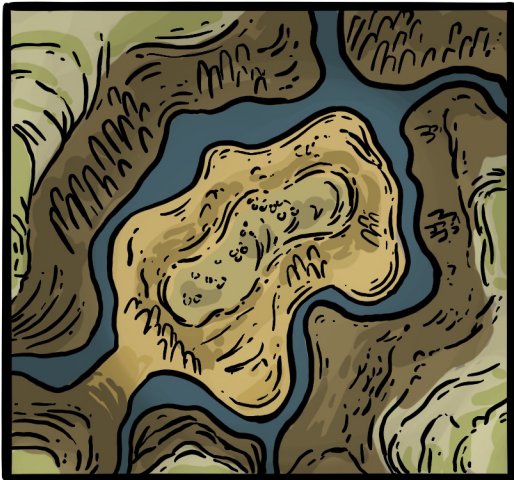


BEING HIGHER UP GIVES DEFENDERS AN EDGE, LETTING THEM CONTROL THE LAND FROM A BETTER POSITION.



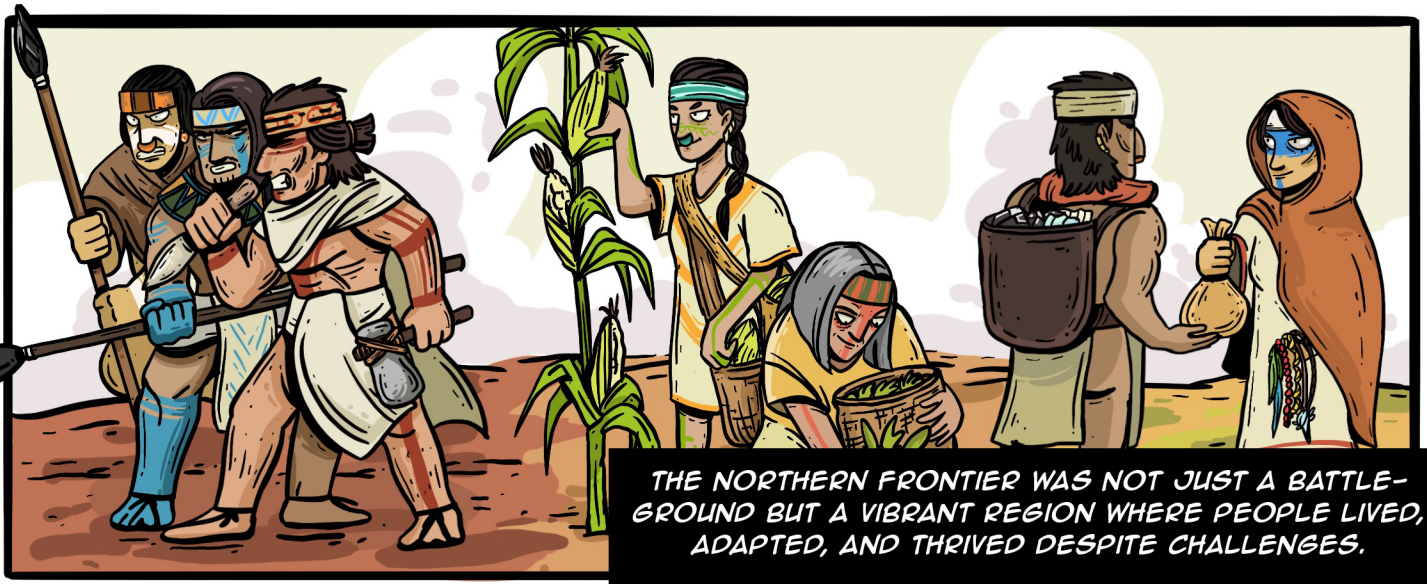
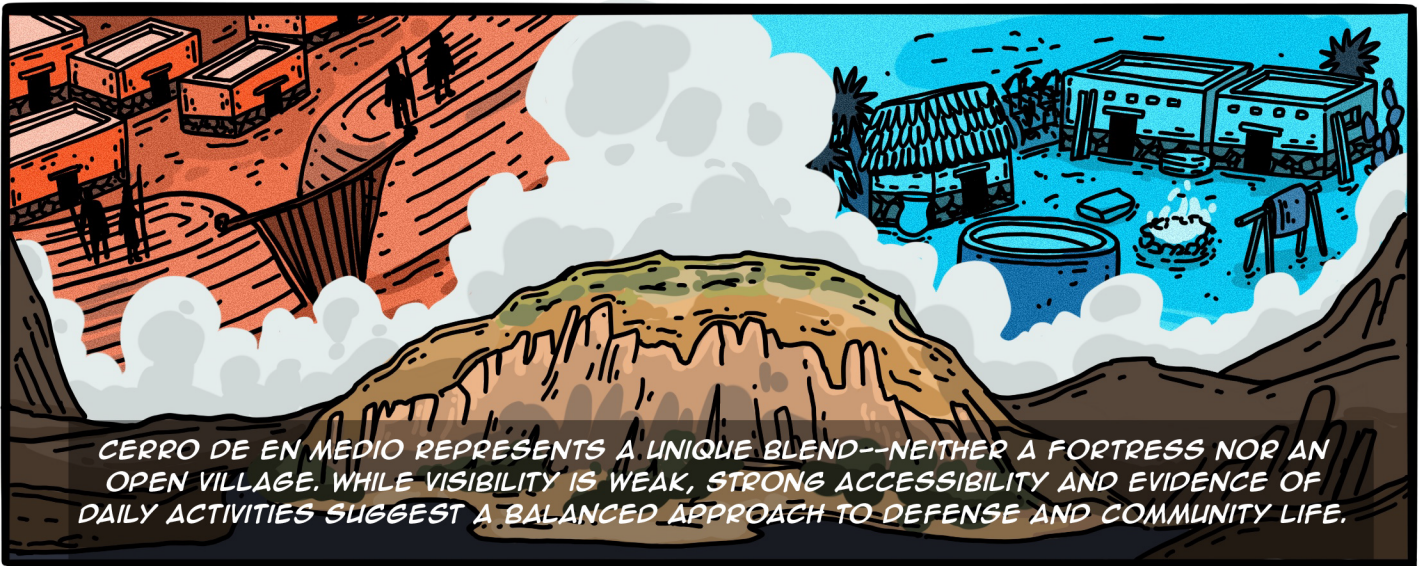
ACCESSIBILITY LOOKS AT HOW HARD OR EASY IT IS TO GET TO A PLACE, WHICH IS KEY FOR FIGURING OUT HOW EASY IT WOULD BE TO ATTACK.

SURPRISINGLY, EVEN THOUGH VISIBILITY IS USUALLY SUPER IMPORTANT, IT DIDN'T SHOW MUCH DEFENSIVE ADVANTAGE HERE--NONE OF THE SURROUNDING AREAS ARE REALLY UNDER VISUAL CONTROL.



THE SITE FEATURES STRUCTURES INDICATING POPULATION PERMANENCE. PERMANENT DWELLINGS AND GRAIN SILOS SUGGEST THAT INHABITANTS RESIDED THERE FOR EXTENDED PERIODS.

MODERN RESEARCH REVEALS A MORE COMPLEX REALITY OF THE NORTHERN FRONTIER, CHALLENGING THE OVERSIMPLIFIED VIEW OF CONSTANT CONFLICT.



THESE INSIGHTS INSPIRE US TO APPRECIATE THE TRUE COMPLEXITY AND ADAPTABILITY OF MESOAMERICAN SOCIETIES, URGING A REEVALUATION OF OUR HISTORICAL NARRATIVES.

