Honorable Dean Oliver Barrow  
Prime Minister of Belize  
National Assembly Building  
Belmopan, Belize  

May 28, 2013  

The Honorable Dean Oliver Barrow, Excellency:  

It was with great consternation that The American Anthropological Association (AAA) learned of the recent destruction of the Mayan pyramid at Nohmul, a well-known example of the archaeological richness of Belize. The AAA deeply admires the people of Belize for unifying the rich mosaic of the nation’s cultures into a singular effort to protect their common cultural heritage.  

Founded in 1902, the AAA is the world’s largest professional organization of anthropologists, representing all specialties within anthropology, including archaeology. On behalf of our over 12, 700 members, many of whom have undertaken research with the gracious permission of the Belizean government, I would like to express our deep dismay upon hearing about this irreplaceable loss of your invaluable history.  

We are certain that your continuing efforts will prevent further damage to the archaeological heritage of Belize. The American Anthropological Association is committed to the protection of archaeological heritage around the world. As the President of the AAA, I would like to offer the expertise of our association should you need it during your efforts to protect the richness of Belize’s heritage.  

With my best wishes,  

Leith Mullings  
President  
American Anthropological Association  

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