

Figure 8. c) Chultun 2, ideal reconstruction

Bullard (1960) reports a *chultun* excavated in the patio of a small and probably ceremonial structure at Yaxha, which he refers to as *Chultun* E-1 (Figure 5a), with three chambers and a plan in the shape of an irregular clover; he dates the construction to this time span and assumes that use continued until the Classic period.

## PROTOCLASIC OR EARLY CLASSIC PERIOD

Chultun 8 comes to its closure at a quite later date around the end of the Preclassic or the beginning of the Early Classic periods; it features a plan in the shape of an eight and double semi-spherical section, with a function assumed to be of the ritual type, taking into consideration the evidence of Offering 7 and Burial 3, deposited at the time of its closure (Figure 9a). Chultuns 24 and 25 presented evidence of Classic period activity, and the poor and eroded ceramic has only allowed us to establish its use in the Classic period in a very general manner; they feature an irregular semi-circular plan, number 24 with a bell-shaped section, and number 25 with a calceiform section.