



Fig. 7: Copacati hill.

I propose that the precontact platform with the rounded corners could have marked the endpoint of the races where the runners were rewarded or punished and that its hill was Llallinaco. A similar event seems to have taken place in Cusco. Pedro de Cieza de León (1959: 34 f. [1554: II, VII]) states that Ayar Cachi appeared to his brothers on the hill of Huanacauri and gave instructions of how puberty rites for young noble men and preparatory accession ceremonies for Inca rulers were to be conducted. In one episode of the accession procedures, the prospective ruler had to run up "a hill known as *Anaguar*" so that onlookers

could see how fast he was and how brave he would be in war. The similarity and context of these state-sponsored competitions, the interest the Inca ruler took in them and the high awards he gave out, further reinforce the superior role and privileged position Copacabana held in Inca politics.

There are a number of complex rock art sites located in the environs of Copacabana. Most intriguing is Copacati, a carved rock complex situated on a steep, rocky hill near the road between Copacabana and Kasani, the Bolivian border station (Fig. 7). Carvings are distributed on various levels of altitude. As one approaches the site, the

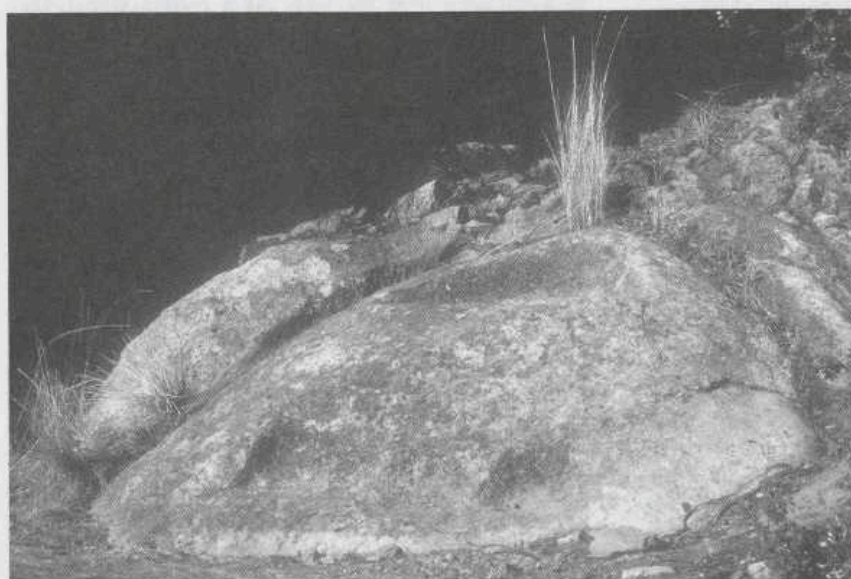


Fig. 8: Triangular seat of Copacati.