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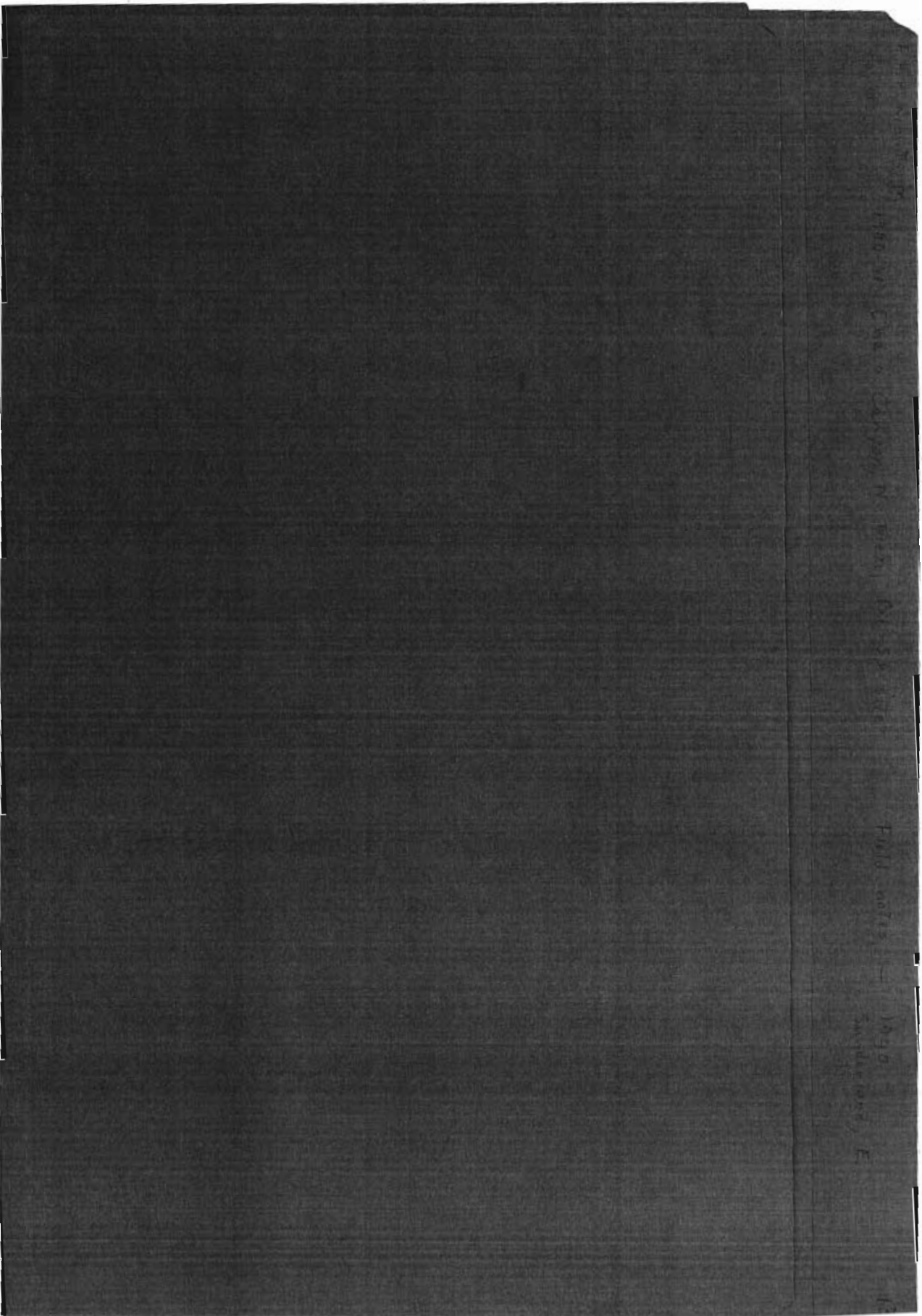
Frank H.H. Roberts Jr.
4851

Archaeological Sites

Chaco Canyon, NM
Bc-53

Box 8

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1790
C. L. ...
...

Field notes
...

Excavation Notes

BC 53 - R. 4

Aug. 4 - Aug. 24, 1940

F. Sunderland.

Chaco Canyon 1940 Field
Session.

Mrs. E. M. Sunderland
3648 Lafayette Ave.
o/o Best Burnout
Omaha Nebr.

Aug. 4th '40

Afternoon Dig.

B.C. 53 Room 4

- Traced with pick & trowel
1. 2 feet of wall W. of N.W. corner R. 4 - to depth of 12 inches
 2. Outside of W. wall of R. 4 from N. corner to S. corner 7' 4" around a joq + continued 5 along a wall 1 1/2 feet. - to depth of 12"
 3. Traced inside of Room 4 West wall from corner to corner 6' 8" to depth of 12" West Wall - 14" thick. Picked up a very few sherds. West wall.

Aug 5th

Afternoon Dig.

1. Traced outside of S Wall for 1 1/2 feet to depth of 6 inches.
2. Traced inside of S. wall to depth of 8 inches. Inside length of wall 6 feet 8 inches
3. Traced inside of N. wall from W. corner for length of — feet

Aug 6th

1. Completed N. wall on inside only - inside length 111 inches. to 12" below B.M.
2. Started excavation of level 1.

Aug 7. Continued -

1. Collected some few sherds - seemingly P^{II} + ^{III}.
2. Fine deer bone awl 9" - broken at the eye.
Location 12" below B.M. against N. wall 33" from west corner.

Aug 8. th

1. Completed level 1, leaving a strat wall against S wall two feet thick!
2. Started level 2. mostly sweepings
Sherds - mostly from 1
Corrugated cooking pot

Aug 9th

1. Continued excavation of level 2... largely sweepings.
2. Found a fine perfect bone awl of perhaps turkey bone.
23" B.M., 34" from N.W. corner against N. wall.

Aug 10th - 2nd level 12" - 24"

Artifacts

1. Crude shaped stone showing pecking.
 2. Smoothing stone 7" x 3" x 1 1/2"
- Started level 3. 24" - 36"

BC 53 R 4 Digs.

3.

Aug 10. Cont.

Level 3 - soft sand, ash, + sweepings with rock beginning to show up again. Struck a lot of adobe at 32".

1. Long piece of a large metate at 28" below B.M. against E. wall 51" from N. wall $\frac{1}{3}$ in strat wall.

~~E.~~

Aug 12.

Completing Level 3 \rightarrow 24" - 36" much roof adobe 32" and down; fewer sherds. Artifact - paint palette - smoothed stone $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches \times $2\frac{1}{2}$ \times $\frac{7}{8}$ inch with red paint on much of top.

black ash below east end.

More sherds toward N. wall - mostly corrugated (exuberant)

Aug 16. 4th level 36" - 48"

Walked along N. wall at east end.

Found large pieces of corrugated pot 38" - 42" below B.M. 28" from east wall - against N. wall.

Packed separately. Many pieces of same in 2 ft radius. Artifacts.

Aug 16 Cont.

1. Bone awl - probably from turkey leg bone. - below B.M. 40" - 21" from N. Wall, 8" from east Wall.

2. One pecking stone

3. Three pecking stones

4. One slightly chipped blade. all within 2" radius of cooking pot.

5. One piece petrified wood. unsmoothed - used for grinding red paint.

6. One rough mano 4 1/4" below B.M. 24" from N. Wall 36" from E. Wall.

7. Lovely agate spear or arrow point - beautifully chipped broken from its hilt.



46" below B.M.

11" from N. Wall 24" from E. Wall

Aug 17th

Completed level 4. 36" - 48" with level containing much ash + sweeping toward the north side:

1. Many more pieces of the corrugated pot found and bag turned in.

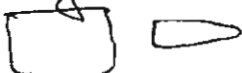
2. Fine quality R. II sherds black on white with a few

Be 53 R 4 Digs 5

Aug. 17th - Cont.

black on red & exuberant corrugated.

3. 1/2 very worn mano 47" below B.M. against N. wall, 46" from W wall.



4. A good deal of bone mostly rabbit.

5. Started Level 5 48"-60" at west end heavy with ash. Very little sherd material included; still a good deal of bone but less than level 4.

6. Found a small piece of rose red shale like material smooth on one side. - Red Mesa Origin. - turned in with artifacts

Aug 20 5th Level Continued 48" - 60"

Very good quality classic and early classic sherd in Chaco black on white & exuberant corrugated. Some black on red

A good deal of jasper & Calcedoni discards. Some deer bone as well as rabbit & other rodent

Bc 53 R4.

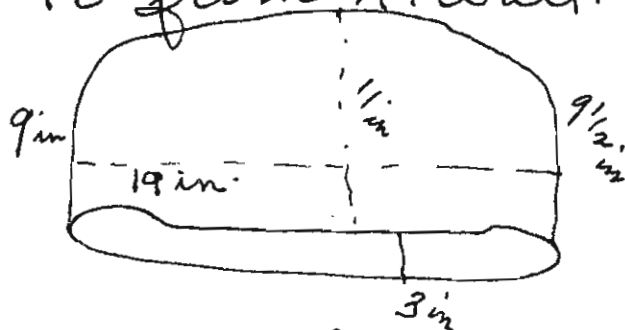
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Aug 20 Cont.

bones.

3 Charred corn cob.

A half metate at B.M. 47-51"
embedded in strat wall in
part - touching east wall
46" from N. wall.



2 7/8" fine bone awl
B.M. 59"

12" from N wall

47" " E. wall.

Finished 1/3 of level 5.
Afternoon Aug 20.

Finds

1. Ladle handle - trough form
2. Fragment black on white tubular ladle handle.
3. Shards with lugs coming up.

Types of shards -

Black on red, red corrugated
Black on white & corrugated
rare dominating.



Aug 20. Afternoon Cont. 7.

BC 53 R 4

Artifacts

1. Polishing stone { B.M. 58"
20" from E wall
2" " " N wall.
- Size Polishing stone = 2 1/2" x 2 1/2" x 1 1/2".
2. Piece of worked stone with margin
1/2 in thick. { B.M. 60"
40" from E wall
6" " " " wall
- raised edge 1/16 inch




3. Bone awl 3 1/2 inches long
B.M. 60" 12" from E wall +
20" " " N wall.

4. Worked bone 2 1/2 in long.
B.M. 55" 32" from N. Wall
22" from E wall

North east third of level 5
heavy in ash + sweepings
Rest of level - more sand
and some stone.

Aug 21. Level 6 60-74"

Started west end toward
center. Sherd material in
upper 6 in - roof material
+ rock below.

Bone material not as heavy
- mostly rabbit + g. Squirrel
Some very interesting sherd
design  + others.

Aug 21 Cont.

1. One pottery decorated Bl on white - foot & hollow - (later decided it was likely a ladle handle as in strat I found another part - looked like part of it.)

2. Worked sherd B.M. 60" - hole Black on white



There was a great deal of large stone.

Aug 22 Level 6. 60"-74"

Completed cleaning floor.

A good hard floor, quite level and rounded to meet wall at west end.

Excellent sherd material
lugs, black on white, exuberant corrugated etc.

3 charred corn cobs

Found part of an unbaked clay pot, against N. wall.

2" above floor 7 sacked
28" from E wall (separately)

4. Sharp, well shaped
flaked scrapers on floor
410" from N. wall 23" from E. wall

BC 53 T4.

9

Aug 22 Cont.

5 Sand stone ball $2\frac{1}{2}$ diameter
on floor. $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft. from N. wall
11" from E. wall

In Strat.

Wood ball $\frac{7}{8}$ inch diameter.

B.M.

from N. wall } in 3rd strata
from E. wall } about middle
of wall

Failed to copy from sack
no one in lab.

Aug 23 Strat wall. 1st level

1 - ϕ 12"

12 - 15 sherds } estimated
12 - 18 bones. }

Mostly found at S.E. corner
in sweepings. -

South wall - 8 ft ^{inside near} corner to corner.
8" at west corner.

12" ~~36"~~, 4" $\frac{1}{2}$ ft from outside W. wall } ^{72"}

Level 2. 12" - 24"

West end still adobe & rock fill
grading to ash & sand east
end.

A couple bits of malachite
B.M. 21" near west & S walls.

1. Bone awl $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches of ^{bone} Turkey
against W wall B.M. 22"

7" from S. wall.

BC 53. R. 4

10.

Aug 23 Cont.

2. Bone awl. Ulna $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches
Bm. 24" - 2" from S wall
6" from W "
3. 3 inch bone awl - broken -
Bm. 14" 22" from W. wall
21" " S wall.

Aug. 23 Afternoon

Finished level 2. strat.

1. Bone awl 3" broken
Bm. 20" 22" from E. wall
22" " S wall

Traces of chrome in
diggings.

Started Level 3 Strat 24-36"
at east end = some adobe,
rock & roof material, ash
underneath and few sherds.

Aug 24. Finished Level 3 Strat
West end 24" - 36"

Mostly large rock & adobe.
Some sherd & bone material

Started Level 4 Strat 36" - 48"
dig E. end - mostly ash &
sand - center more earth
W. end included rock & adobe
Not much sherd & bone
material - East end contained

BC 53 R 4

11

Aug 24 Cont.

3 fine Upper Gila Tularosa
sherds with design inside
- sacked separately. Corrugations
also in design. Sherds
fit together. sacked separately.
Bm. 45" 27" from E wall
24" " S wall.

Sherds of fine classic Phaco
pottery types. Some fragments
Red Mesa Black on white.

Aug 24. Afternoon Level 5 Strat
48" - 60"

1 smoothing stone broken
Crude - 4 x 2 x 1.

Bm. 49" 27" from W wall
23" from S wall.

Several small fragments
of 1/2 in stone smoothed
on both sides.

Sand + ash level.

Aug 26. Sifted remains of
Level 5 Strat at E. end
48" - 60"

Frequent sherd material in
sand + ash level.

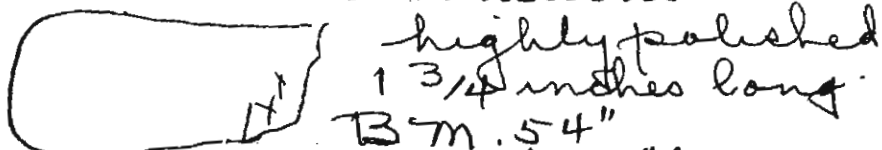
A little bone.

West end - largely stone

Aug 26 Cont.

and adobe. - less sherd + bone.

1. Fragment - deer bone - spoon or awl. with decorations



B.M. 54"

10" from S. wall 23" from E. Wall.

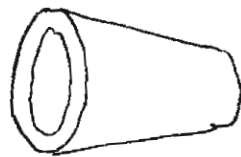
2. Broken bone awl 3 inches long - broken thru eye + point - highly polished.
B.M. 58 1/2", 10" from S. wall
23" " W wall.

quite a bit of sherd material.
Started L. 6" 60"-74" Strat.

Aug 26th - Afternoon.

Sifted all level 6. - some sand + ash east end - mostly adobe + rock center + all west. poor in bone + sherd material.

1. Stone pipe end near floor west end.



2. Piece of yellow (light) paint material on floor near west end.



7. Sunderland.