

COLLECTION: El Palacio Collection

**CDI
ACCESSION
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COMMENTS:

Brief summary of field school work accomplished in first part of 1929 field season.

CITATION:

1929 University Group Works at Chetro Ketl. El Palacio 26 (19-25): 312-313.



the process of cultural deposition. How cautious we must be in talking about "stratified culture." There on the south side of the town they are dumping the refuse. Also on the northwest to a small extent. Twenty years ago the principal dump was on the east where the windmill now is. They change from one place to another. There on the north is the most conspicuous mound in the town. It belongs to centuries ago. There you find the potsherds and chippings of ages ago. Almost every type of pottery found at Pecos is here on the surface. This is the lesson. Culture does not always stratify. The deposition of remains may be spots rather than in layers. Here on a single level are remains of many decades widely separated in time. Remains of five hundred years ago may be superimposed on those of ten years ago, rearranged by the plow. Be extremely conservative in establishing patterns of cultural stratification. Archaeology is one of most deceptive of sciences. Its phenomena are extremely complex, misleading. Errors of sequence, of nomenclature tend to become accepted as facts. American archaeology, more than any other branch of the science, is paying the penalty of premature conclusions.—Edgar L. Hewett, Director School of American Research and Professor of Anthropology, University of New Mexico.

UNIVERSITY GROUP WORKS AT CHETRO-KETTLE

Twenty-two students and assistants of the University of New Mexico, the State College of California, and the School of American Research, have pitched camp in Chaco Canyon and begun work on the site of Chetro-Kettle, the largest and most significant of the many ruins in the canyon. In spite of prevailing winds the

work has been progressing rapidly. All the sections previously excavated have been cleared out, a new room in the west end has been opened, the dump trench has been deepened six feet, and one of the towers which forms the most interesting feature of the ruins has been cleared.

The camp is located on the south side of the canyon, about threequarters of a mile from the dig. A laboratory for the study of languages being conducted by Mr. J. P. Harrington, has been rigged up at the lodge on the north side of the canyon. Miss Anna Shepherd of the Museum of San Diego will conduct her analysis of the shards in the same building. The museum and recording work will be done by Miss Florence Hawley of the University of Arizona. Her headquarters are in a room of Pueblo Bonito, just across from the laboratory. The office of Dr. E. L. Hewett, who is in charge of the camp and the dig, is a few hundred yards down the road. Stanley Stubbs and Reginald Fisher are in charge of the camp.

The daily program of the students starts with breakfast at six and includes four hours of work in the morning, two hours lay-off at noon, four more hours of work in the afternoon, and two hours of lecture work in the evening. The lectures are conducted in the ramadi, or shade-shelter of the camp. Seminar work by the students on various pertinent subjects will be substituted for the lectures later on.

HEWETT DESCRIBES CHACO CANYON PAST AND PRESENT

Dr. E. L. Hewett, of the University of New Mexico