

Introduction to Indigenous America



Warm Up

Draw an "Indian" (Native American), including his/her clothing and house.







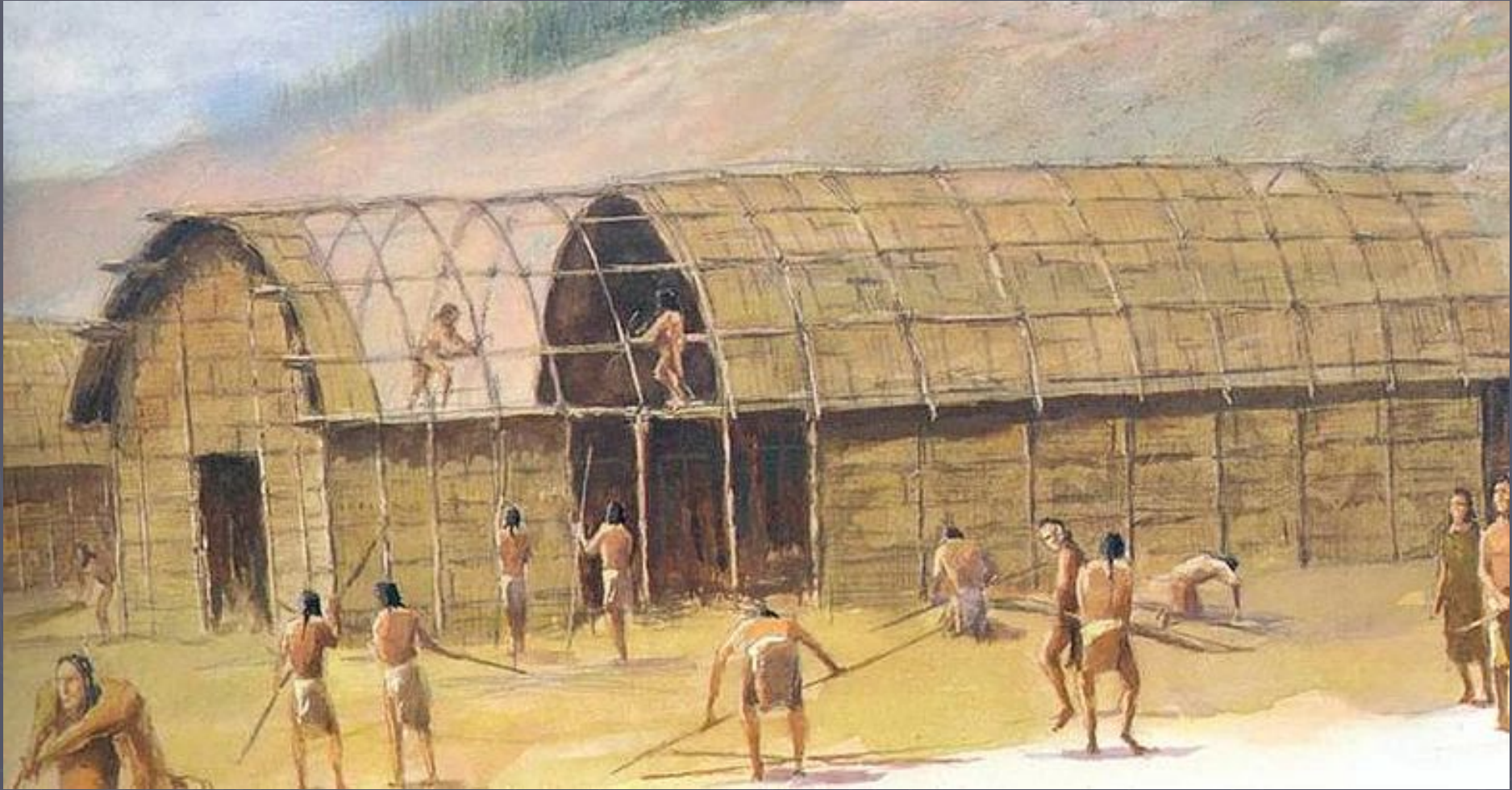
Tenochtitlan (Largest city in the world in 1491)



Cahokia



Chaco Canyon



Eastern Woodlands Longhouse



Arctic Igloo



Plains Teepee



Northwest Longhouse



Southwest Hogan



The Basics When I (Cash & Jolley, 30 years apart) went to School

Natives Arrived 12,000 Years Ago

Populations Small, Less than 5 million

Lived in Small Nomadic Bands

Little Impact on Environment

Americas an Unspoiled Wilderness

The Real Story (According to Historians, Archaeologists, Anthropologists, Geologists, & Biologists)

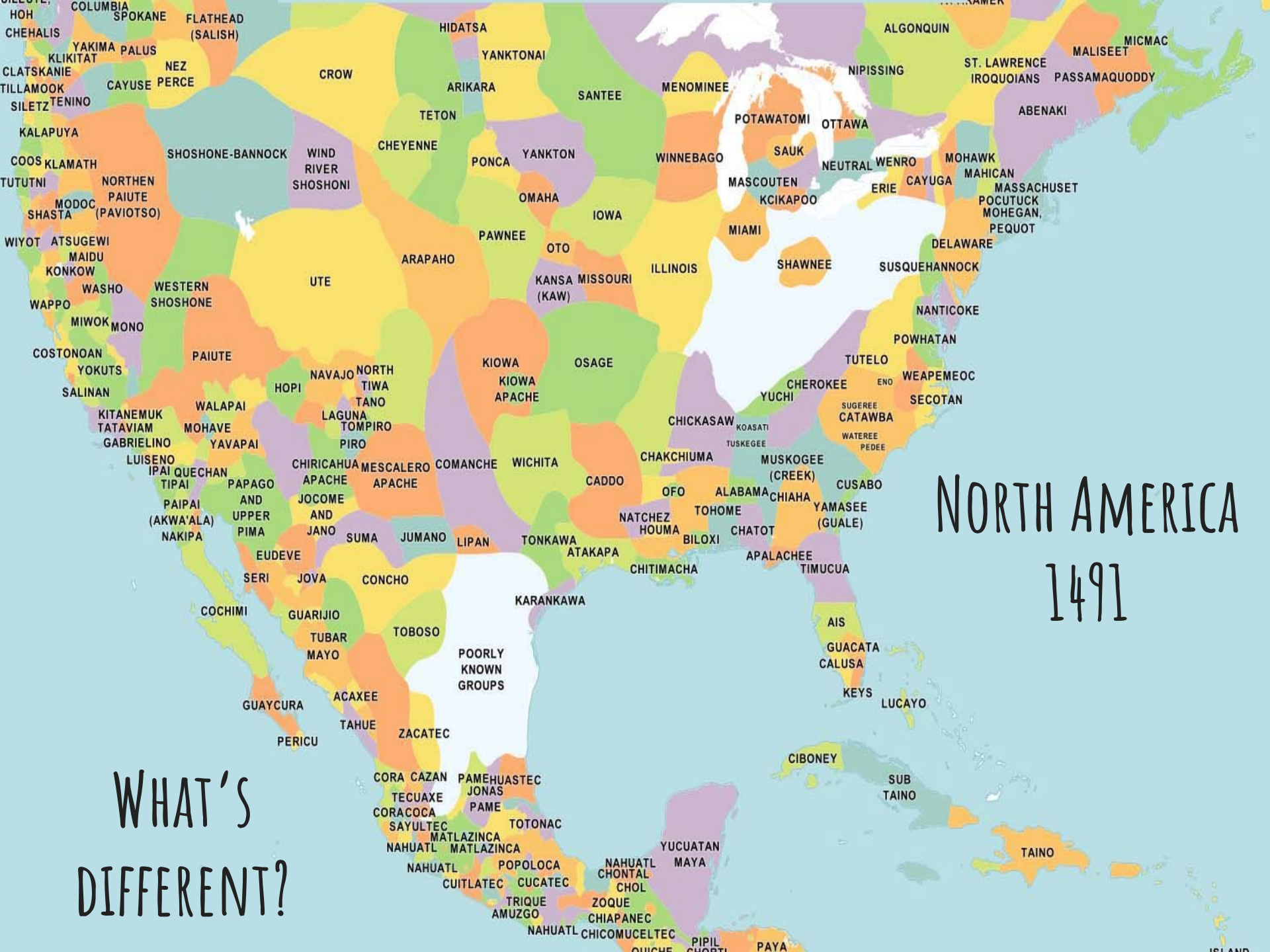
Natives Arrived 20,000-40,000 ya

80-125 Million People

Incredibly diverse societies, from HGFers, Farming, Complex Societies, and Complex HGFers

Major interactions and alterations of environment (Agricultural engineering, controlled burns, roads, canals)

Major trade networks and economic systems



NORTH AMERICA 1491

WHAT'S
DIFFERENT?

The Americas Before Europeans

<https://www.npr.org/2005/08/21/4805434/1-491-explores-the-americas-before-columbus>

What does Historian Charles C. Mann argue in his book, *1491: New Revelations of the Americas Before Columbus*?

America Before Columbus

8:41-22:00











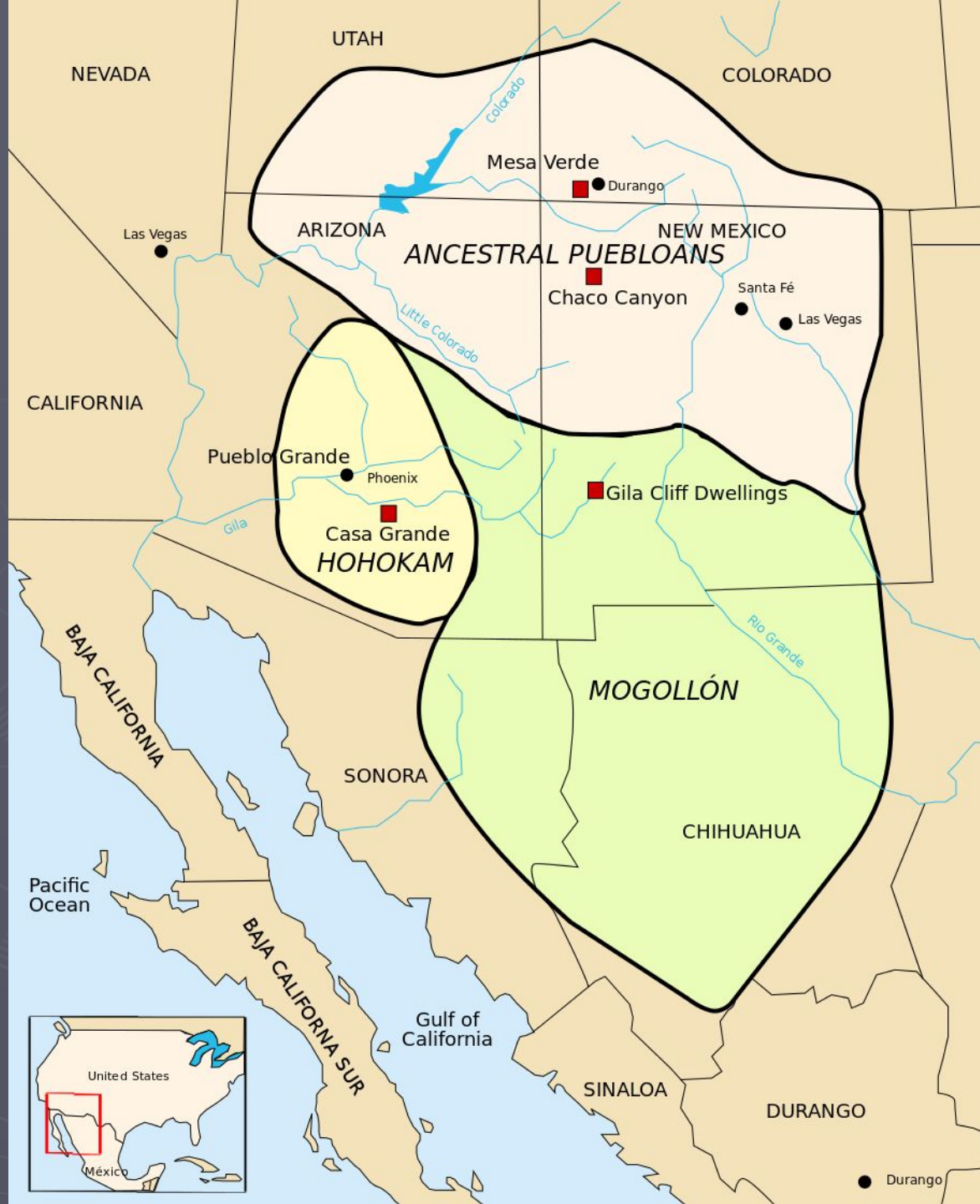


Southwest Complex Societies

Chaco Canyon

Snaketown

Mesa Verde



Southwest Cultures

- ▶ Three main ceramic/ethnic/etc. groups developed
 - Hohokam in southern Arizona, northern Mexico low desert
 - Anasazi in the high desert four corners area
 - Mogollon near the Mogollon rim, edge of the high plateau in central Arizona, and in eastern Arizona/western New Mexico

Hohokam

- ▶ In low desert
 - "basin and range" terrain, divided by parallel mountain ranges
 - little rainfall, very hot in summer
 - saguaro, barrel, cholla, prickly pear cactus
 - mesquite, etc. in washes
- ▶ by 300 AD, they were diverting river water into many canals to irrigate maize fields

Snaketown

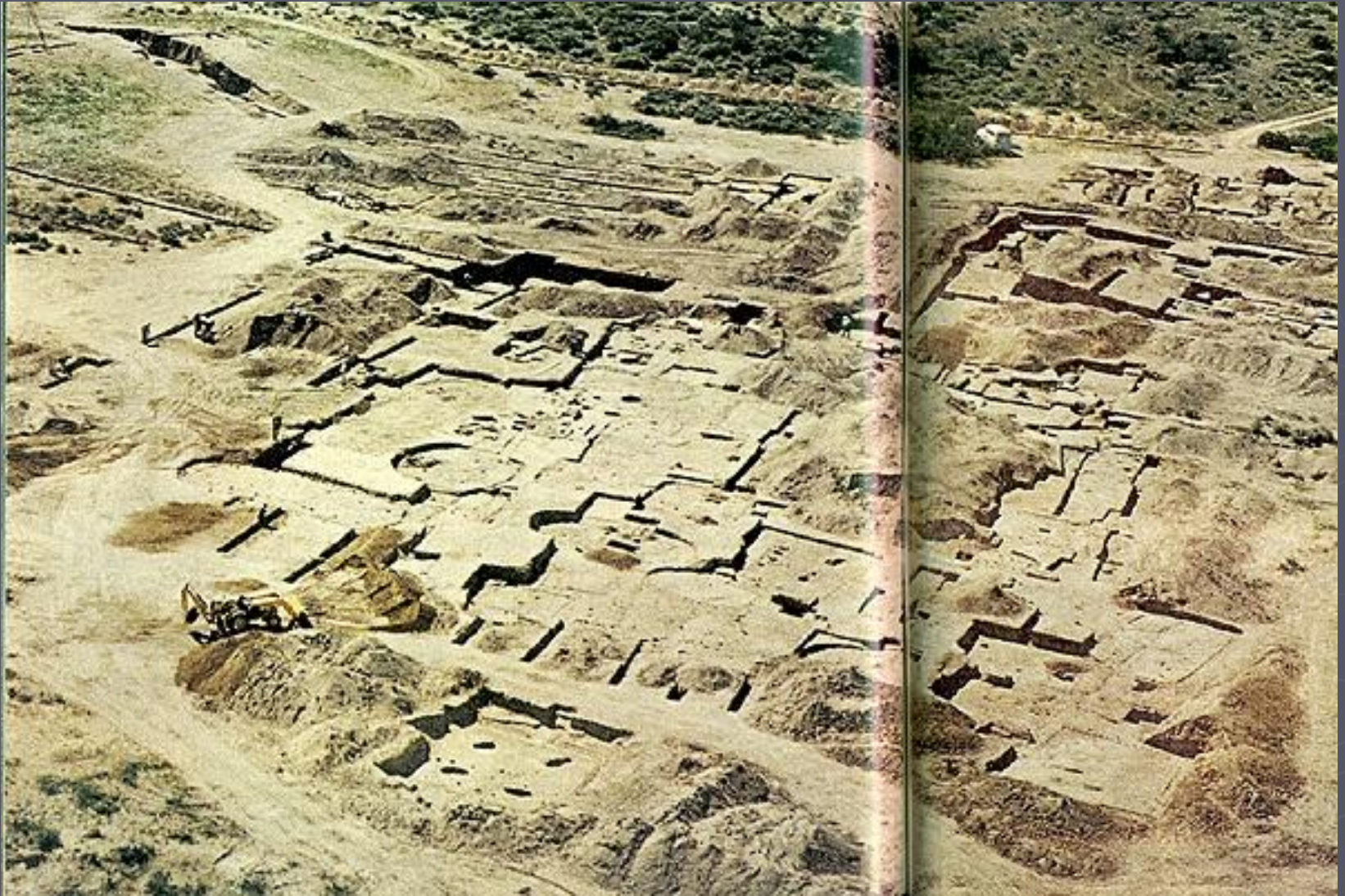
- ▶ Example Hohokam site: Snaketown
 - located in the Phoenix basin
 - near the confluence of the Gila and Salt rivers
 - early stage, starting around 300 AD
 - ▶ maybe 100 people living in pithouses
 - arranged in pairs facing a common patio
 - probably small family units
 - ▶ maize agriculture plus foraged foods
 - by 600 AD, many more villages, rising regional population
 - ▶ Snaketown grew, reaching 1 square kilometer by its peak at 900 AD
 - ▶ maybe 125 pithouses, holding 500 - 1000 people

Snaketown, AZ

A.D. 975-1150 (1025-850 B.P.)

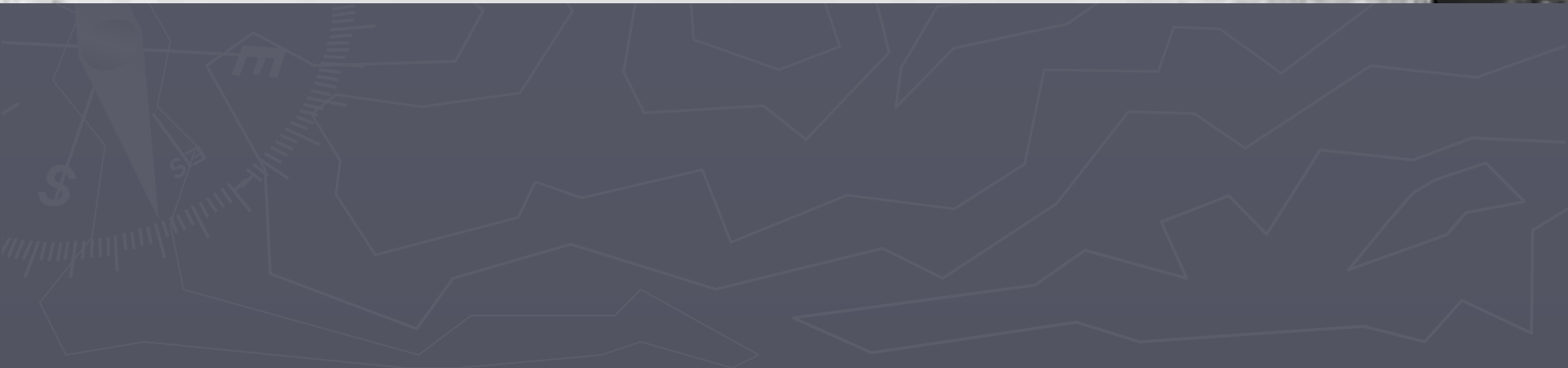
- ▶ It is believed that a group of people belonging to the ancient MesoAmerican cultures traveled north to settle in the area which is present-day southern Arizona.
- ▶ The Pima called these remarkable people the "Hohokam" meaning the "vanished ones."
- ▶ Ballcourts (Mesoamerican influence)
- ▶ 3 ceremonial mounds
- ▶ Structures, mounds, ballcourts around central plaza (Meso)

Excavations



<http://sscl.berkeley.edu/~anth122/snaketown.htm>

Snaketown Ballcourt



Excavating the Ballcourt: 1935

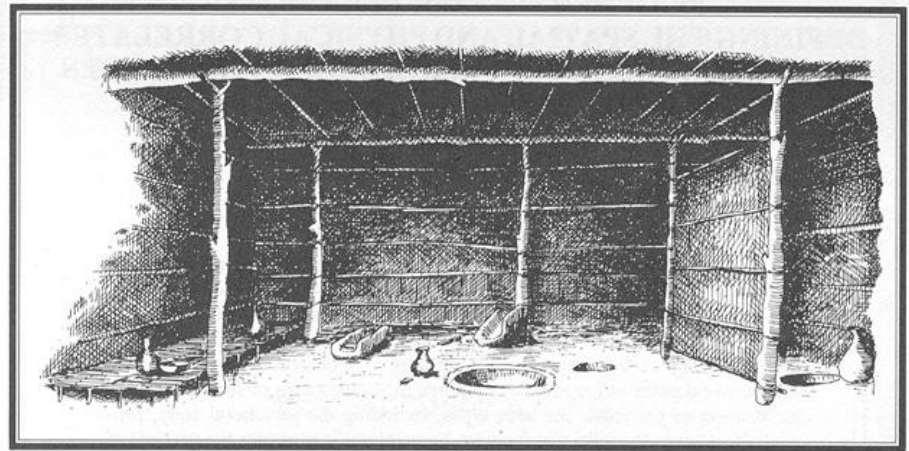


<http://www.statemuseum.arizona.edu/coll/phoarch1.shtml>

Hohokam Pottery



Reconstructed House



USE-AREAS IN STRUCTURES

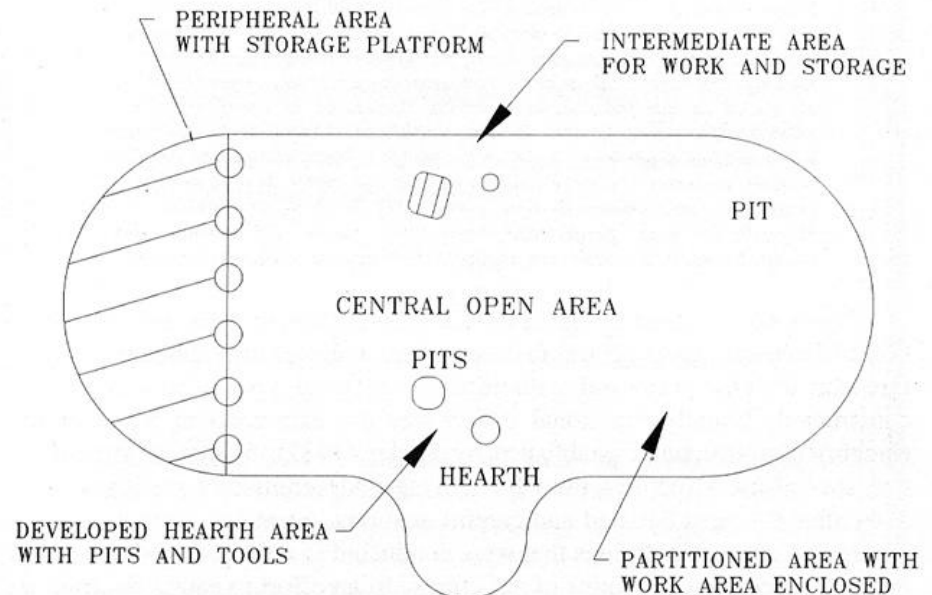
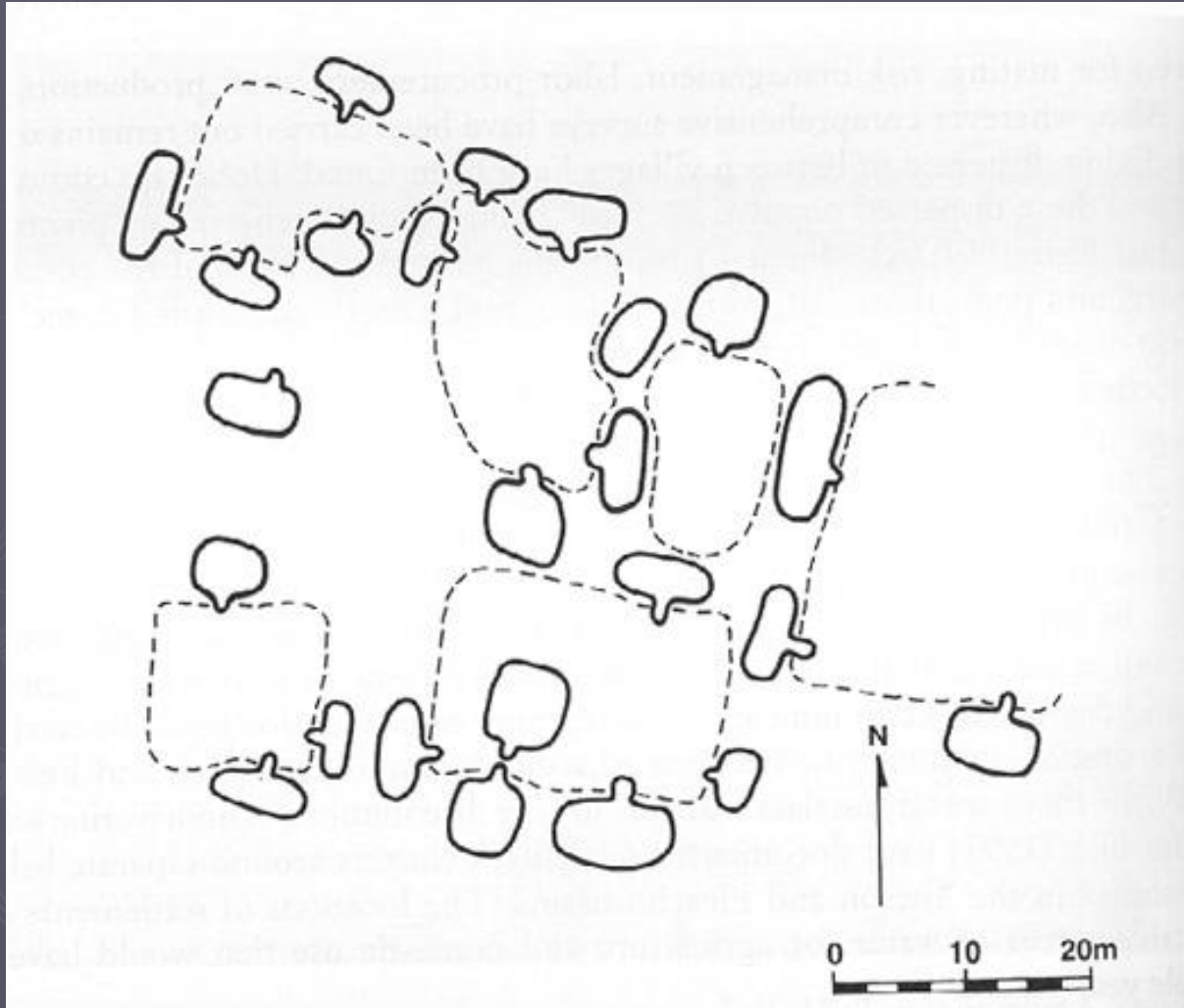


Figure 1. Use-area types in structures. Six classes of use-areas, or regularities in the organization of intramural space, have been defined in the Snaketown structures. One of these is the peripheral area where evidence of storage is often found. Figure 1, upper, illustrates a reconstruction of major use-areas in a Hohokam pit house. Figure 1, lower, illustrates an idealized representation of use-area types in structures.

<http://sscl.berkeley.edu/~anth122/snaketown.htm>

Courtyard Groups



Anasazi

- ▶ A widespread culture; we will focus on one dramatic variant within the larger Anasazi region
- ▶ Chaco Canyon
 - in Northwestern New Mexico
 - on the Colorado Plateau
 - in one of the largest valleys cut into the high plain (over 1500 m / 5,000 ft)
 - dry, only occasional, strong rains often causing flash floods in washes
 - ▶ farmed by building low walls to catch the runoff, concentrate it, and direct it in channels to fields
 - ▶ called "floodwater farming"

Chaco Canyon, NM

A.D. 900-1150 (1100-850 B.P.)

- ▶ Increase in population and complexity ca. A.D. 860.
- ▶ Area covers approx. 25,000 sq. miles
- ▶ Large towns, road and water systems
- ▶ Luxury/trade items at site.
- ▶ Desert
 - Long winters, short growing season
 - Carrying capacity ~5500 people

Basketmaker Period

▶ A.D. 490

- First sedentary villages
- Pit houses, earth walled, mud & wood roofs.
- Storage huts behind houses.

▶ A.D. 700-900

- Abandoned pit houses
- Move to surface dwellings
- Pithouse-Kivas (ceremonial)

Large Towns A.D. 900 (1100 B.P.)

- ▶ Penasco Blanco, Pueblo Bonito, Una Vida
- ▶ Rectangular rooms and round chambers
 - Roofed with wooden beams
 - Second story built on top
- ▶ Conglomeration of households or built with “Master plan”?
- ▶ All have at least one large kiva

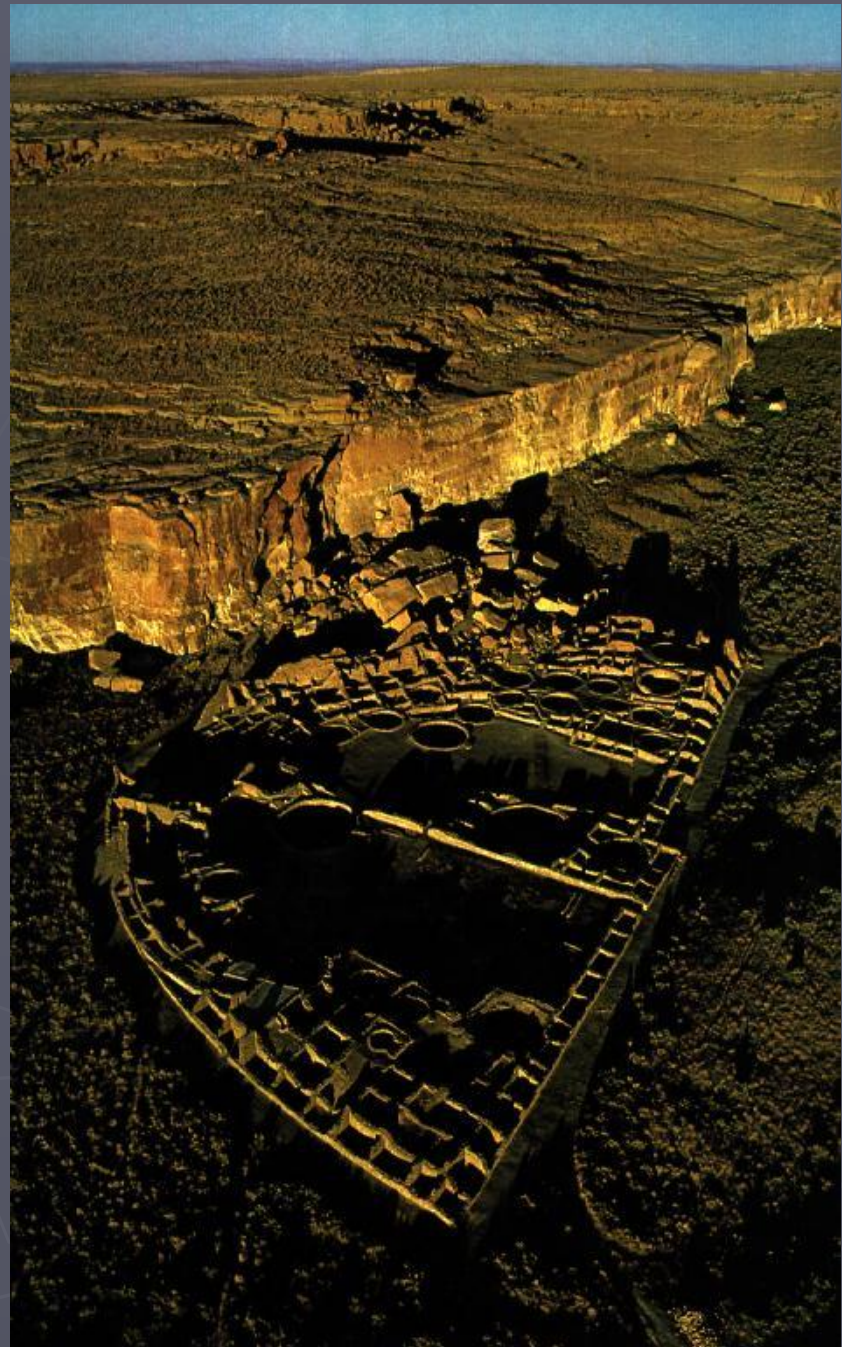
Chetro Ketl



Casa Rinconada



Pueblo Bonito



Chacoan Roads



Great Kiva, Pueblo Bonito



Pueblo de Arroyo



Canyon de Chelly



Rover

Canyon de Chelly



"Sweety"

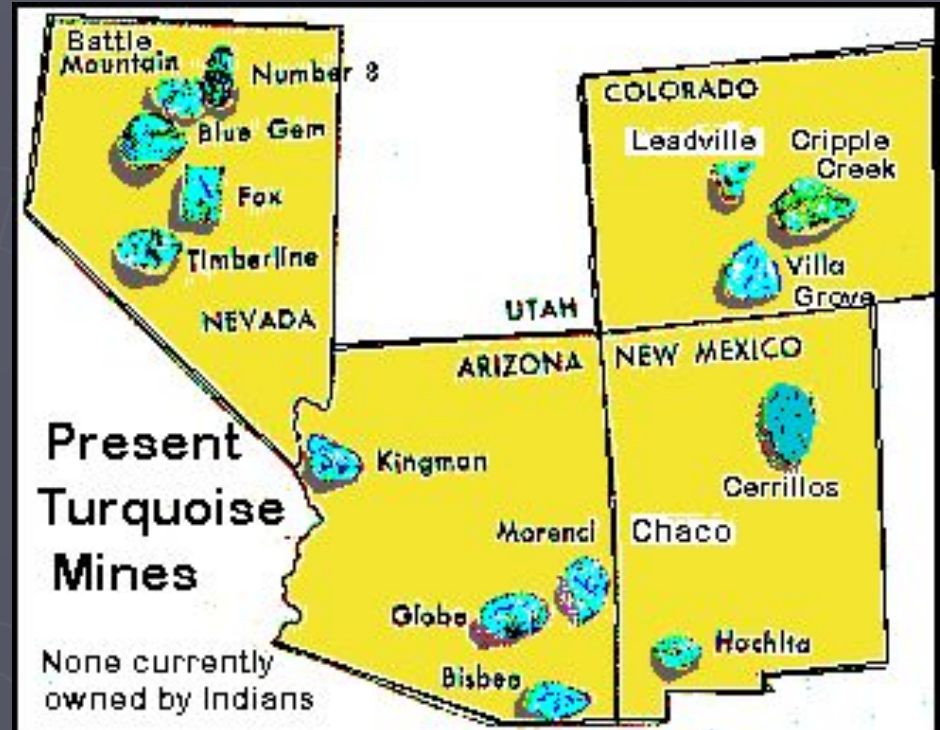
Trade

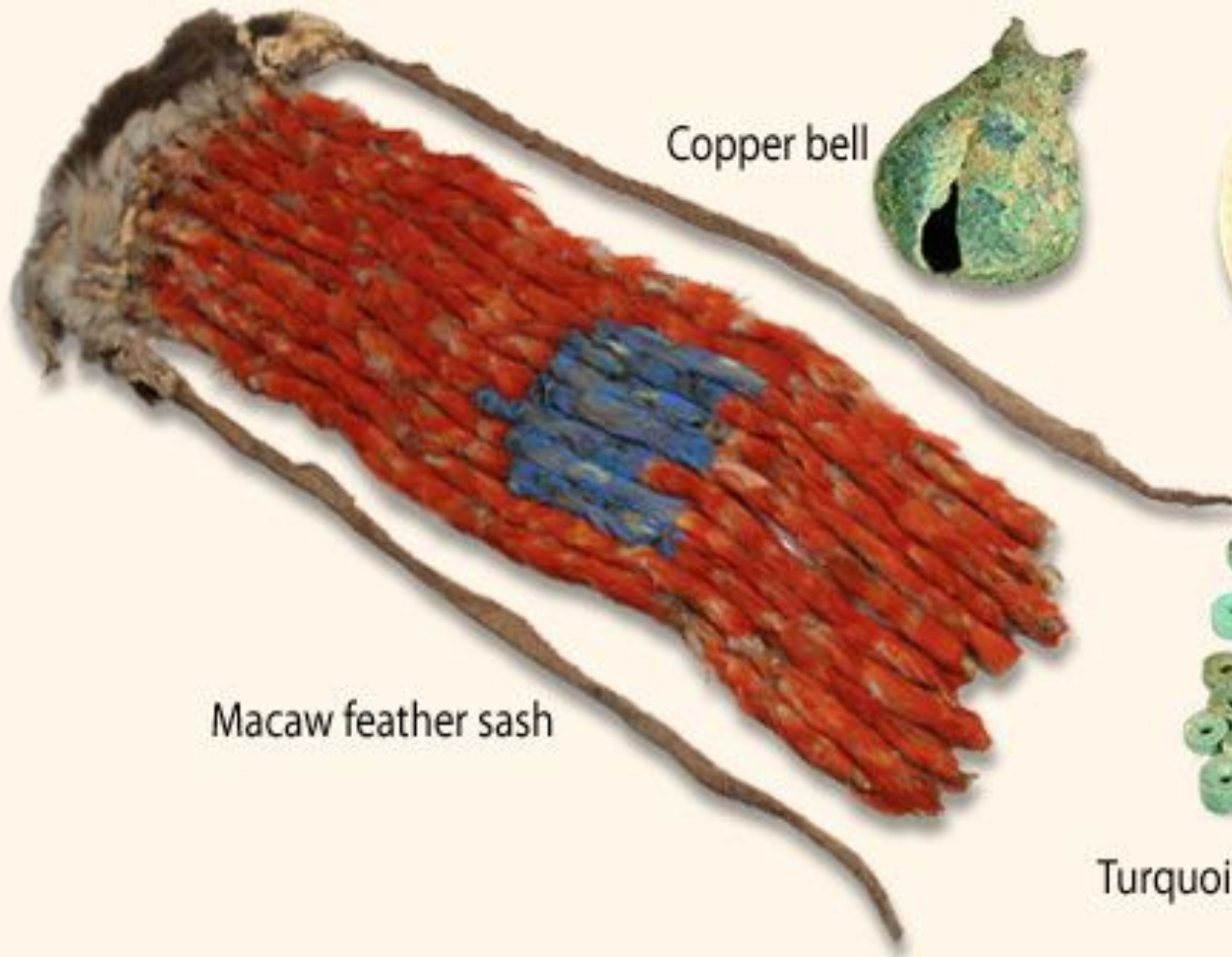
- ▶ Pottery-elaborate designs
- ▶ Turquoise worked into finished ornaments.
 - Source about 100 miles away.
 - 60,000 turquoise fragments found in canyon alone.
- ▶ Outlying sites and roads.
 - 70 communities outside canyon.
 - 400 miles of roads
 - ▶ 12 meters wide, cut 10 cm into soil.

Black on White



Turquoise





Macaw feather sash

Copper bell



Shell bracelet



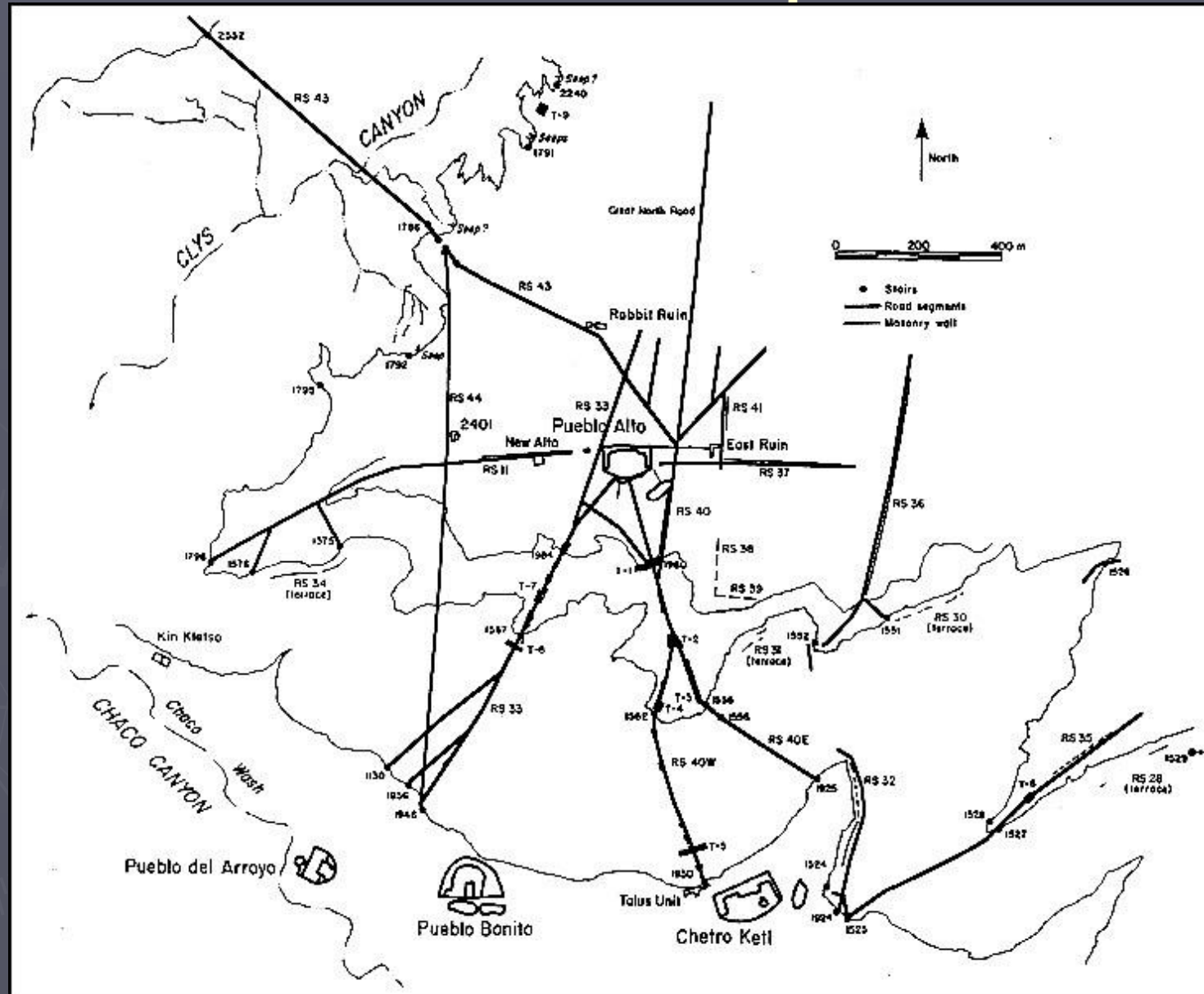
Turquoise beads

Cosmology

- ▶ “Great North Road” goes 40 miles north of canyon.
- ▶ Sacred landscape of roads.



Road Map



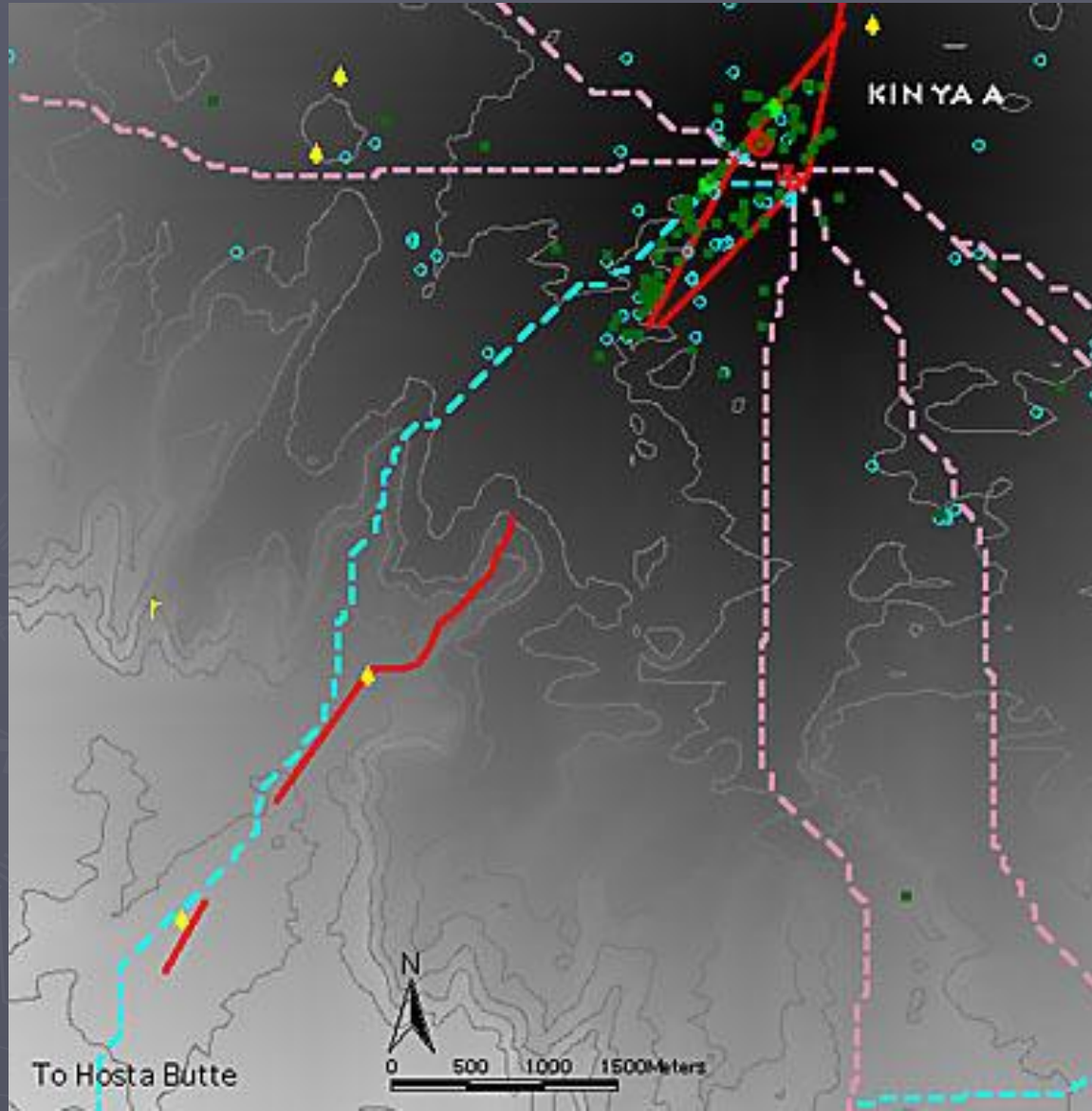
NASA Sat Photos



Road Functions

- ▶ The evaluation of the three general models of Chacoan road function suggest that the roads did not function to economically integrate the region.
- ▶ With the notable exception of the South Road between Chaco Canyon and Hosta Butte, none of the road segments in the study area extend more than a kilometer or two, and virtually none fall even close to cost-paths that minimize travel time between communities.
- ▶ In contrast, almost all roads appear to fit more closely with explanations that see the roads as having served localized religious, integrative, and/or political functions

Roads tend to connect great kivas and other ceremonial sites.



Mesa Verde, CO

A.D. 500-1300 (1500-700 B.P.)

- ▶ Better Environment, Natural Springs
- ▶ Cliff Dwellings
 - Cliff House
 - 220 rooms, 23 Kivas
- ▶ Ceremonial Temples (Fire & Sun Temple)

Cliff Palace



Spruce House



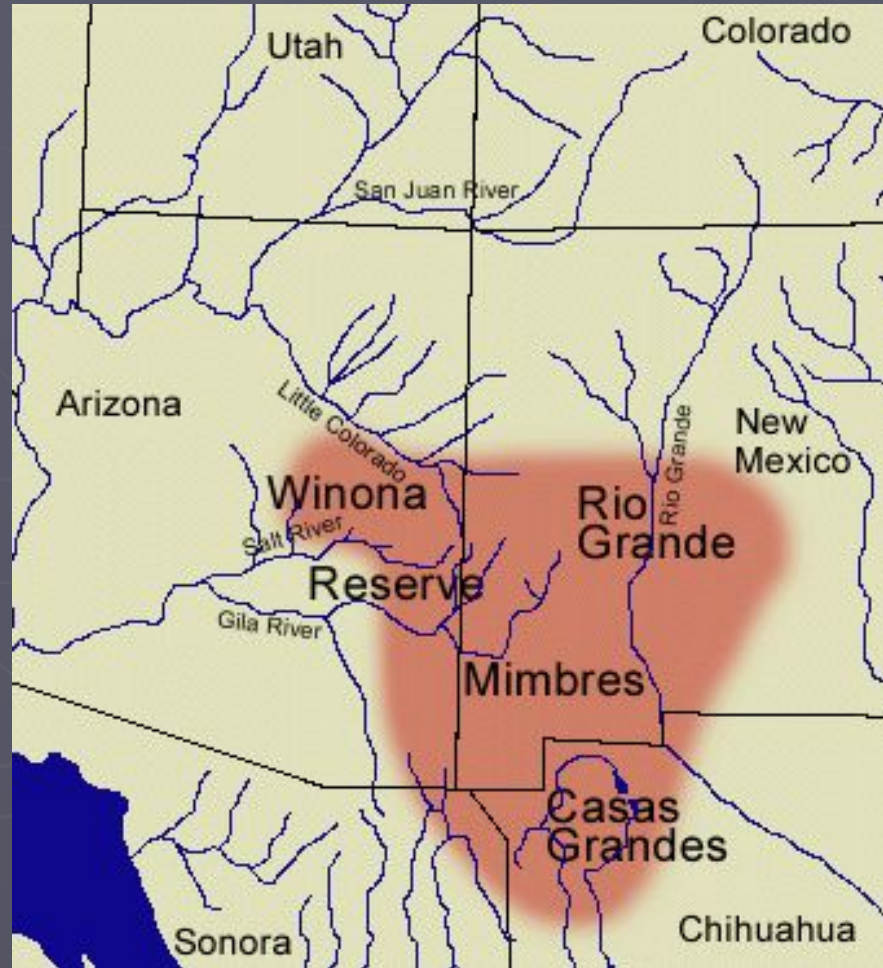
Square Tower



Mogollon

- ▶ The Mogollon Culture evolved in the southwestern corner of New Mexico and extended along the Mogollon Rim into east-central and southeast Arizona and southward into the Chihuahua region of northern Mexico.

Mogollon Area



Mogollon Traits

- ▶ The Mogollon seem to have developed from an earlier culture, the Cochise, an archaic culture of small nomadic bands who lived in the more mountainous parts of the territory.
- ▶ The introduction of pottery, probably from the south, signals the beginnings of the culture we call Mogollon.
- ▶ The people grew corn and beans, and were also hunters and gatherers.
- ▶ Villages consisted of small pithouse or pueblo groupings, and usually had a large ceremonial structure known as a *kiva*.
- ▶ A variety of burial practices were used, most often in shallow pit-graves either *intramurally*, (inside the dwellings), or in the refuse heaps surrounding the villages.

Mogollon Phases

- ▶ Georgetown Phase - AD 550-650
 - This phase was characterized by San Francisco Red and the Alma Series plain wares, and San Lorenzo Red-on-Brown.
 - Round deep pithouses were the norm.

Mogollon

- ▶ San Francisco Phase - AD 650-750
 - This phase was also characterized by San Francisco Red and the Alma Series plain wares, with the addition of Mogollon Red-on-Brown and Three Circle Red-on-White types.
 - Shallow rectangular pithouses with rounded corners were the norm.

Mogollon

- ▶ Three Circle Phase - AD 750-1000
 - During this phase San Francisco Red and the Alma Series plain wares became more rare, being replaced by the Reserve Plain and Corrugated wares.
 - Puerco and Mimbres Black-on-Whites were developed.
 - Shallow rectangular pithouses with rounded corners continued to be the norm.

Phases con'd

- ▶ Reserve Phase - AD 1000-1125
 - This phase was characterized by Reserve Black-on-White pottery.
 - Pithouses were giving way to surface peublos.

Phases con'd

▶ Tularosa Phase - AD 1125-1300

- This phase was characterized by Tularosa Black-on-White pottery, and by the introduction of polychrome types.
- Plain wares include Tularosa Fillet Rim and Tularosa Patterned Corrugated.
- Rectangular surface pueblos were now the norm.

Phases con'd

- ▶ Mimbres Phase - AD 1025-1300
 - This phase was characterized by Tularosa Black-on-White pottery, and by the introduction of polychrome types.
 - Plain wares include Tularosa Fillet Rim and Tularosa Patterned Corrugated.
 - Rectangular surface pueblos were now the norm.

Mogollon Mimbres



Classic B/W Bowl
ca. 1100 C.E.

<http://www.mimbres.com/>

Three Rivers Petroglyphs site

- ▶ More than 21,000 glyphs of birds, humans, animals, fish, insects and plants, as well as numerous geometric and abstract designs are scattered over 50 acres of New Mexico's northern Chihuahuan Desert.
- ▶ Most of the petroglyphs here decorate a long, basalt ridge rising from the upper Tularosa Basin at the base of the Sacramento Mountains.
- ▶ Petroglyphs at Three Rivers were created by Jornada Mogollon people between about 900 and 1400 AD

Three Rivers Petroglyphs



More than 21,000 glyphs



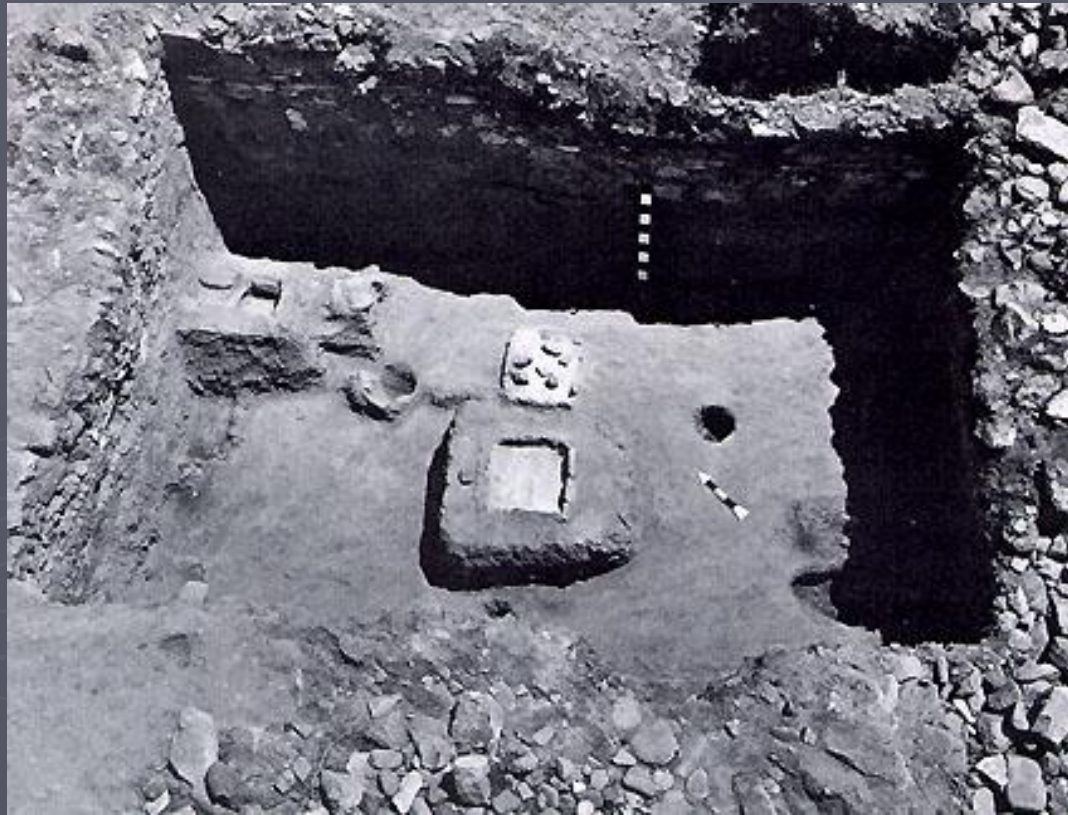
Thousands of petroglyphs created over a period of a few hundred years

http://www.desertusa.com/mag98/mar/poi/du_3rivers.html

Mogollon Pit House Reconstruction



Excavated pit house



<http://www.mc.maricopa.edu/~reffland/anthropology/swarchy/mogollon.html>

Abandonment A.D. 1300 (700 B.P.)

- ▶ 50 year drought beginning in A.D. 1250.
- ▶ People abandoned large centers and dispersed.
- ▶ Why?
 - ▶ Beginning of little ice age-changes in weather patterns
 - ▶ Outside pressure, evidence of warfare.