



EXHIBIT ILLUSTRATING HIGHLIGHTS OF PUEBLO INDIAN LIFE AND CUSTOMS, A.D. 500-1700

and richly colored Sikyatki polychrome of almost a thousand years later. On the other hand, the trend in sandal styles is retrogressive, going from the artistic tightly woven cord sandal with its unusual decoration (on both sides!) to the more coarsely woven undecorated examples of later times. However, in architecture we perceive a progression from one-story villages grouped

about the underground pit houses, through the large many-storied terraced apartment house-towns located in caves and on mesa tops, to the larger aggregates of apartments symmetrically arranged around a central plaza and kivas.

In putting this exhibit together, we were limited by considerations of space and could include only the highlights in a long history

of a relatively complex way of life that also had a large number of regional variations. The new exhibit was created by Mr. Gustav Dalstrom, artist in the Department of Anthropology, Mr. George I. Quimby, Curator of Exhibits, and the writer. Mr. Lee Rowell, dioramist, constructed the sectioned kiva model, illustrated on page 1 of this issue of the BULLETIN.

MUSEUM EXPEDITION DISCOVERS HIGHEST MOGOLLON SITE

The Museum's Archaeological Expedition to the Southwest, currently operating in western New Mexico, has discovered, at approximately 7,000 feet above sea level, the highest site of prehistoric Mogollon Indian culture known to date and is about to begin excavations upon it, it is reported by Dr. Paul S. Martin, Chief Curator of Anthropology and leader of the expedition.

The site, named "Promontory," was discovered by two members of the expedition, Dr. John Rinaldo, Assistant in Archaeology at this Museum, and Mr. E. B. Sayles of the University of Arizona and Arizona State Museum, who had been assigned to make an advance survey of the area. Their assignment—begun before Dr. Martin and the main body of the expedition arrived on the scene—was large. Their instructions had been to hunt for early sites, anything from the Pine Lawn phase of Mogollon culture (A.D. 500) back to the early Cochise culture (13000 B.C.). They were also assigned to map all sites found and by examination of the surface finds of artifacts in the area to try to approximate an idea of its past history.

The area surveyed, practically foot by foot, is one of some ten square miles in the

vicinity of the small community of Reserve. To archaeologists, this tedious and exacting task is "a problem and end in itself aside from being a necessary preparatory job before actual excavations commence," in the words of Leonard G. Johnson, a member of the expedition. Adding to the difficulties was the fact that the area is one with tall pines, pinyons and fir trees, small bushes, and rocky terrain with water confined to a few underground springs. To reach it, the two surveyors had to make a long, steep climb under the scorching rays of the New Mexico sun. For this work, they were dressed like gold prospectors or ranchers on the trail of "strays," and as they proceeded they filled the pockets of their blue denim work trousers and their shirts with heavy loads of stone chips made by ancient man and potsherds (bits of pottery) that they retrieved from the ground. Covering the entire ridge top were tons of boulders, half buried and half hidden by the hardy yellow-greenish straw grass.

At the 7,000-foot level, an abundance of potsherds representing the undecorated pottery of the Mogollon culture was found. These and the stone tools found on the surface, together with a few shallow depressions noted, indicated that an ancient village

of pit houses once occupied the site. Mr. Sayles deduced that the early Indians lived in the high ridges possibly for defensive purposes, possibly because, like modern penthouse dwellers, they wanted a view.

The great thickness of the potsherds plus the unusual elevation of the village seemed to indicate that it was of an early stage. Dr. Martin and his associates are now faced with the questions: Where had these Indians come from? and at what date approximately was the site occupied? The excavations of Promontory site, now beginning, may answer these and other questions.

Fossils in Floor

Not all the invertebrate fossils in the Museum are confined to cases in Hall 37. The marble (actually a limestone) of which some of the floors and stairs are made contains fossil shells, seen as sections on the polished surface. Perhaps the most readily recognizable fossil thus to be found is *Archimedes*, a bryozoan with a spiral or screw-like shape, reaching a length of several inches and visible in many of the steps throughout the building.

The famous Natural Bridge of Virginia is represented in a model in Clarence Buckingham Hall (Hall 35).



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