

A DATE FROM CHACO YUMA WEST, SOUTHERN ARIZONA

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Early in January, 1932, Mr. F. C. Lewis of Rillito, Arizona, brought in a piece of ponderosa pine charcoal found lying on the floor of a shallow room in the Chaco Yuma West area. This is a level plain lying west of the Tucson Mountains and contains innumerable sites of pre-historic villages. These extend far around the point of the mountains to the north and continue in the same abundance at Chaco Yuma East on the east side of the mountain. (These names date from the old Yuma stage days). The predominating pottery type is Tanque Verde Red-on-Buff.

A date, the first in southern Arizona, was obtained on this piece in January, 1938, and checked in final test by Dr. Douglass in January, 1942. The specimen shows great ring character, although it carries only a short sequence. The thirty-two rings date from 1243 to 1274. Two fine equal rings, 1263 and 1264, preceded by four large rings, form a strong signature. Tree borings in the Graham and Chiricahua Mountains in 1932 showed that the chronology in southern Arizona pines was generally in agreement with the published Central Pueblo Chronology.

DATES FROM FORT GRANT PUEBLO, SOUTHERN ARIZONA

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The Fort Grant Pueblo, on the western slopes of the Pinaleno (Graham) Mountains at an approximate elevation of 5,000 feet, is two miles southwest of Fort Grant, Arizona. Mr. B. E. McCowen, the excavator of this pueblo, reports¹ that it was probably a two-storied structure of approximately 1000 rooms and that the beams used in it were cut on Mount Graham.

Five parcels of charcoal and partly charred wood specimens and one section of unburnt juniper from this site were sent to the Tree-Ring Laboratory for examination. The numerous charcoal pieces appear to come from two separate trees on the basis of the ring patterns. All the specimens with the exception of FGP-4, the juniper section, are ponderosa pine as shown by microscopic tests.

By use of the skeleton plot method a continuous time sequence of about 100 rings was constructed, starting at 1232 A.D. and ending at 1332 A.D. On comparison with the photographic chronology of the Central Pueblo Area we find the 1263 ring slightly larger than that for 1264 in the FGP group; the 1269 ring is very small in comparison with its neighbors and can be used as an identification ring in this collection, while 1270 is represented by a normal ring.

¹ Personal communication to Dr. E. W. Haury.