

WENNER-GREN FOUNDATION

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DR. TIMOTHY A. KOHLER, Washington State University, Pullman, Washington, received funding in January 1989, renewed in August 1989, to aid archaeological research on development of sedentary villages, Bandelier National Monument, New Mexico. In summer 1989, eight weeks of excavation were conducted at a site known as Burnt Mesa Pueblo in Bandelier National Monument. As a result of these excavations and the analyses that followed, Dr. Kohler found that Burnt Mesa Pueblo consisted of two components: a linear roomblock dating to the mid-1200s, and a small village, constructed around a plaza, dating to the late 1200s and early 1300s. Based on initial results from a concurrent NPS survey of the Bandelier National Monument, this aggregation of population took place at the same time as a dramatic increase in local population. Marked differences were found in the raw materials used for stone tools by the inhabitants of these two components that may be due to the development of territories and exclusion of certain social groups from lithic resources. Inhabitants of the later village seem to have depended more on domesticated plants and animals than the people living in the earlier linear roomblock.

DR. CHRISTOPHER CARR, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona, was granted funds in April 1989 to aid research on the evolution of alliance strategies in egalitarian societies through a test case from Ohio prehistory. A systems theory of the evolution of alliance mechanisms in egalitarian societies was proposed and tested. The theory predicts that various types of alliance mechanisms are enacted in ordered sequences, from strategies that are reversible but energy costly to strategies that are structurally committal but energy efficient, as social and/or natural environmental stresses increase. Research focused on the ordered development of utilitarian and valuables exchange of ceramics among Ohio hunter-gatherer/agriculturalists between 400 B.C. and A.D. 1300. Utilitarian and finer ceramic vessels, a total of 204 from thirteen archaeological components, were characterized as "made locally" or "traded" based on three kinds of data: 1) instrumental neutron activation analysis determinations of the concentrations of thirty-three elements in the vessel pastes, 2) petrographic determinations of the mineralogy and other characteristics of the tempers and pastes, and 3) wet-chemical determinations of natural Ohio clays. Approximately thirty traded vessels were identified within the 172 that date from the Early through Early Late woodland. Percentages of trade vessels decreased systematically through these times, in accord with the theory.

RANDALL M. WITHROW, a student at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota, was awarded a grant in January 1990 to aid archaeological and ethnohistorical research on encounters between the Eastern Dakota and Christian missionaries in nineteenth-century Minnesota, under the supervision of Dr. Janet D. Spector. This research focused on the colonial encounter between Christian missionaries and the Eastern Dakota from 1820 to 1863 and the manner and extent to which the material world was used to accomplish goals of conversion and resistance. Disputed activities, mode of dress and other life-way patterns became arenas for the use or display of material symbols and the negotiation or assertion of differences. This contest of cultural conversion versus cultural sovereignty has a rich material dimension, which was examined by studying artifacts from several nineteenth-century archaeological sites, objects preserved in ethnographic collections, and references to the use of these and other objects found in written documents.