



REGIONAL DESCRIPTION OF COLLECTIONS

Southwestern United States

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I have been aware of Kidder's materials at the Robert S. Peabody Museum for many years because of my work on the Upper Pecos, New Mexico where I worked at the site of Rowe Ruin. The Robert S. Peabody Museum holds important records and artifactual materials from Pecos, Forked Lightning and Rowe. These materials are critical to the descendants of the people of Pecos Pueblo, now residing at Jemez Pueblo, as well as to southwestern research scholars in general and the National Park Service who maintains Pecos National Cultural Historical Park. I was fortunate enough to be able to see the Pecos, Forked Lightning and Rowe artifacts and records during my last May. The information I obtained is part of on-going research I am conducting on Pueblo IV sites in the Upper Pecos and northern Rio Grande. I was truly pleased to see how well the materials and records were being cared for at the R. S. Peabody.

While I visited the Peabody in 2004, I also learned of the Kidder and Moorehead materials from other key sites in the southwest. These include primary materials from early investigations at Chaco Canyon, Canyon de Chelly, and Awatovi that are at the core of current southwestern research.

There are also ethnographic materials in the Moorehead collections, especially from the Pima, San Ildefonso and San Juan Pueblos. All of these materials are valuable for re-search. They were systematically collected with documentation at a time when it was still possible to obtain them. Kidder's is *Pottery from Pueblo Bonito, Chaco Canyon, New Mexico* such a venerated name in American archaeology, especially in southwestern and Meso-american archaeology, largely because his scholarship set and continues to set a standard to which we aspire.

The Peabody's collections are crucial historic documents about our national and world archaeological resources. For example, Chaco Canyon is a world heritage site, and our collections include materials that Moorehead obtained there in 1898. Many of the other southwestern sites in the Peabody collections are either currently on the National Register of Historic Places (Pruette Ruin, Awatovi; Sikyatki) or are National Parks (Pecos). Many of the sites represented in the Kidder collections at Robert S. Peabody Museum are from sites that no longer exist – such as Oldtown Ruin, a Mimbres site near Demming, New Mexico. So many Mimbres sites were lost to looters in the 1950s and 1960s that artifacts from known sites constitute nearly our only records of this important prehispanic culture. Not unimportantly, materials in the Robert S. Peabody Museum collections from Walpi, Polacca, and Payupki, Arizona are part of the heritage of the modern Hopi people of Arizona and serve as important historic records of their cultural heritage.



The Robert S. Peabody Museum collections are critical to the history of American archeology because of their association with Kidder and Moorehead. The collections are equally important records of the cultural history of the U.S. Southwest. Finally, the collections are important to the patrimony of Native American people.

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