Temporal and Spatial Variability in Roosevelt Red Ware Painted Decoration

Patrick D. Lyons and Deborah L. Huntley

1. Introduction

- Roosevelt Red Ware ("Salado polychromes") is linked to new religious practices and hybrid identity during late 13th through 15th centuries AD (Clark et al. 2013).
- A Roosevelt Red Ware community of practice connected Kayenta immigrants and their descendants over much of the southern Southwest (Clark and Lyons 2012; Crown 1994; Lyons 2003; Lyons and Clark 2012; Lyons and Lindsay 2006).
- Studies show temporal and regional variability in Roosevelt Red Ware types and in designs that crosscut types (Crown 1994; Lyons 2004, 2013).
- New data highlight the potential of Roosevelt Red Ware design studies to refine chronologies and illuminate a new ideology born of the Kayenta diaspora.

3. Davis Ranch Site Case Study

- Partially reconstructible vessels from a stratigraphic sequence at the Davis Ranch Site.
- Site's main late Classic Period component (ca. A.D. 1275-1425):
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      - New data highlight the potential of Roosevelt Red Ware design studies to refine chronologies and illuminate a new ideology born of the Kayenta diaspora.
    - Style stratigraphic distributions in Davis Ranch Site pithouse and room (n=25).
    - Style stratigraphic distributions in House 7 and Room 6 corroborate Crown's (1994) Roosevelt Red Ware stylistic sequence.
    - Type stratigraphic distributions in burials support Lyons' (2004, 2013) seriation of old and new Roosevelt Red Ware types.

5. Interior Rim Designs

- On late types Cliff Polychrome and Nine Mile Polychrome, these would be visible when interior vessel wall designs were obscured by vessel contents.
- Unlike other designs, interior rim designs tend to be simple and bold.
- Like other design styles, interior rim designs do not pattern strongly by site or region.
- Widely shared conventions on vessels used for feasting attest to communication among potters and an emphasis on community integration.

6. Discussion

- The case studies illustrate the potential for Roosevelt Red Ware stylistic and typological seriation to refine within and between site chronologies.
- They demonstrate broad design homogeneity despite widespread local production, suggesting regular communication among potters.
- Regional differences in type distributions, as highlighted by these two cases, attest to flexibility in the adoption of hybrid Salado ideology.

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Thanks to Claire Barker, Samantha Fladd, Marilyn Marshall, and Jaye Smith. This research was funded in part by the National Science Foundation (Project # B19657).