

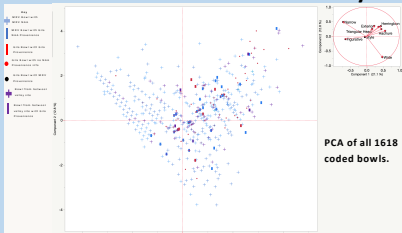
Contextualizing the Differences Between Upper Gila and Mimbres River Valley Painted Ceramics

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This poster reports on the continuation our recent work¹, which through principal components and cluster analysis identified a number of design elements that correlate with Mimbres painted bowls from the upper Gila (UG) valley. We have analyzed 992 additional bowls from sites in the Mimbres river valley (MRV) and between the Mimbres and Gila valleys (Table 1). We then integrated the new data with our previous data to examine if our results remained consistent and to examine the distribution of Gila design elements in the Mimbres region.

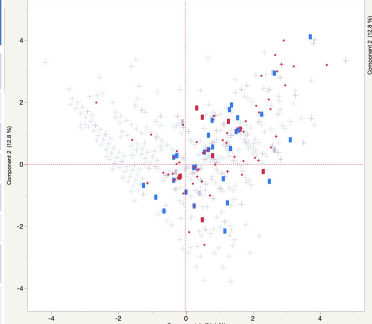


New Analyses

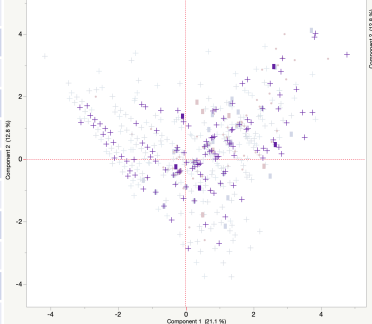


We performed a new PCA on the combined dataset (left). This reanalysis supported our previous results: the design elements we identified are most common in bowls outside the MRV, and figurative elements are much more common on MRV bowls. Additionally, the new PCA revealed that bowls from sites between the MRV and UG have a mix of Gila design elements and figurative elements (bottommost PCA).

Site	# of bowls analyzed	Site	# of bowls analyzed
Galaz	320	Villareal (combined)	14
Mitchell	60	Dinwiddie	3
Swarts	440	Saige-McFarland	20
Eby	213	Black's Bluff	2
Old Town	26	Woodrow	3
Baca	121	Sawmill	1
NAN Ranch	28	Heron	1
Manual Gonzales	1	Mangas	2
Perrault	1	CF Ranch	10
Pruitt	1	Mogollon Village	3
McSherry	1	Curtis/Buena Vista	2
Ranger Station	1	DeFausell/Villareal	6
Rock House	1	Starkweather	1
Treasure Hill	61	WS Ranch	1
Cameron Creek	180	Riverside	1
Sam's House	1	Hill Top Ruin	2
Wind Mountain	32	Lee Ranch	4
Nantack	1	Burro Cienega	1
Tres Alamos	3	Lee Ranch	2
Goforth	4	Casa Grande	1
Rock Ruin	1		



PCA of all 1618 coded bowls. Bowls with Gila provenience highlighted.



PCA of all 1618 coded bowls. Bowls with provenience between Gila and Mimbres valley sites highlighted.

Distribution of Gila Elements

We used our expanded database to examine geographic distribution of bowls with Gila elements. For each site we tabulated the number of bowls in quadrant I (the upper right quadrant) of the PCA, which contains bowls with the highest degree of Gila elements, and then used that to determine the percentage of painted bowls at each site that contains these Gila design bowls (Table 2). This reveals that bowls with Gila elements constitute a higher percentage of ceramic assemblages outside of the MRV.

Percentage of Bowls with Gila Designs for Sites with ≥ 3 Bowls

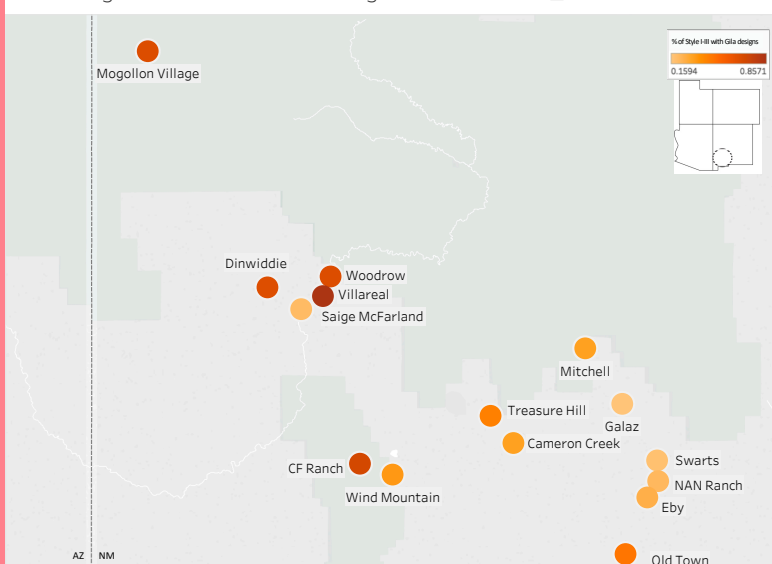
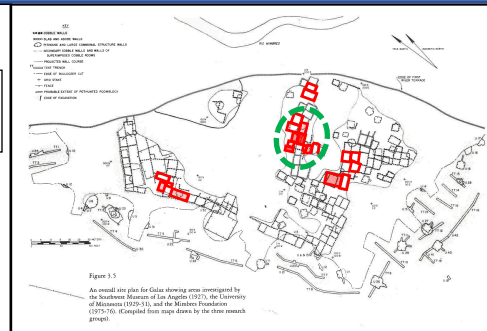
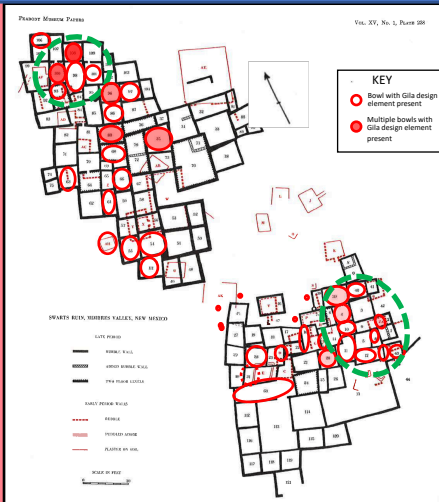


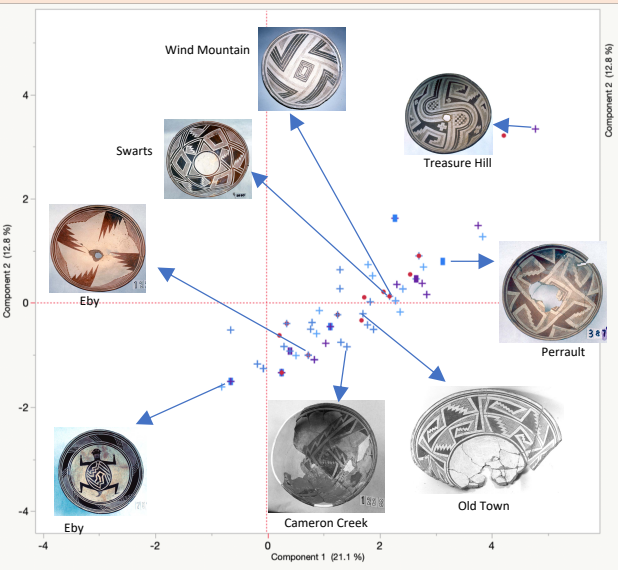
Table 2. Number and Percentage of Gila design bowls at all sites examined.

Site	N Bowls in Quadrant I	%	Site	N Bowls in Quadrant I	%
Galaz	51	15.94	Wind Mountain	11	34.38
Mitchell	19	31.67	Saige- McFarland	4	20.00
Swarts	78	17.27	Woodrow	2	66.67
Baca	25	20.66	Black's Bluff	1	50.00
Eby	53	24.88	Burro Cienega	1	100.00
Old Town	12	46.15	Casa Grande	1	100.00
NAN Ranch	6	21.43	Nantack	1	100.00
Cameron Creek	57	31.67	Heron	1	100.00
Sam's House	1	100.00	Hill Top Ruin	2	100.00
Treasure Hill	26	42.62	Lee Ranch	2	50.00
Mogollon Village	2	66.67	Mangas	1	50.00
Villareals	12	85.71	Riverside	1	100.00
Dinwiddie	2	66.67	Sawmill	1	100.00
CF Ranch	7	70.00			



We examined the distribution of bowls with Gila elements at two Mimbres River valley sites, Swarts² and Galaz³. There are no clearly discernable patterns to the distribution of bowls with Gila designs at Swarts, although a few sets of rooms have higher densities of Gila bowls than others (circled in green). Similarly, we identified a set of rooms with a higher density of Gila design bowls than others at Galaz. However, several hundred bowls at each site remain unanalyzed, and analyzed bowls were examined in order of Mimbres archive number, not by stratified random sampling of rooms. Thus, it remains unclear if the clusters are representative of ancient Mimbres practices or a result of the bowls analyzed.

Two Thick Rim Bands



We also examined a long-standing question—if there are any discernable patterns in the kind and number of rim bands on painted pottery, in particular, bowls with two thick rim bands. A total of 225 bowls in our set have two thick rim bands. We found no correlation with geography. However, 110/225 of the bowls (49%) have at least one Gila design element, and of those only 23 had figurative elements.

Conclusion and Future Research

We found that Gila design elements do seem to be less common in the Mimbres river valley. We now intend to examine whether this remains constant through time. We also hope to integrate more NAA data and continue to examine the contexts of Gila design bowls at non-Gila sites.

References

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- 2) Cosgrove, Harriet B. and Cornelius B. Cosgrove. 1932. The Swarts Ruin: A Typical Mimbres Site in Southwestern New Mexico. *Papers of the Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology* 15(1). Harvard University, Cambridge, MA.
- 3) Anyon, Roger and Steven A. LeBlanc. 1984. *The Galaz Ruin: A Prehistoric Mimbres Village in Southwestern New Mexico*. The Maxwell Museum of Anthropology and the University of New Mexico Press, Albuquerque, NM.

Acknowledgements

We'd like to thank Steven LeBlanc for his insight and management of the Mimbres Pottery Archive. Funding for Sedig provided by the Reich Laboratory of Medical and Population Genetics.

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