

## Chaco Canyon Closes

Work on Chetro Ketl dig of 1929 was closed on July 20. The season's work consisted, in the main, of work on the east tower precinct. The lower kiva itself, with its tunnel and shafts, three of the buttresses adjacent to it, and all of the rooms in the precinct were cleared, and all necessary reconstruction work done.

The terraced arrangement of the rooms accentuates the tower effect. There are three levels of rooms, the highest having three stories and the level on the plaza only one. The masonry of the lower rooms differs noticeably from that of the upper. All of the rooms have been plastered inside and out, and room three on the east side had pictographs traced in the plaster.

Besides the work on the east tower precinct, clearing was done in the sectors previously excavated. All of the kivas have been cleaned, the tunnels and shafts excavated, and all fire pits dug out. A large amount of new work has been done on the great ceremonial bowl. A trench through the floor on the south side disclosed an old wall and firepit (sic). The central altar was found to rest on a floor some two feet below the one previously excavated. The fire pits were found to rest on the same level. They were cleared down to the old floor and the altar was repaired to what is believed to have been its original heights.

Very little museum material was taken out of the rooms. Shards were found scattered through all of the fill, but no whole bowls were found. Awls and yucca strings and cords were also found scattered through the fill. The greater part of the catalogued material was taken from the rubbish filled buttresses of the tower.

Though no fire pits were found in any of the rooms, burned places on the floors and smoked plaster indicate that open fires were made in them. No food material was found.

The trench through the great refuse heap yielded shards, bone implements and arrow points of unusual type. It had been built up on a slope and disturbed at various times so

that the strata were inverted and the determination of period levels will be difficult. Miss Shepherd superintended the work on the mound.

Stamm, Winifred, ed., "Chaco Canyon Closes." *El Palacio* 27 (July 6-August 17, 1929): 34-35.