Sourcing Western-style Glaze-Painted Pottery from Tijeras Pueblo, NM

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Preliminary Results of Re-firing and Petrographic Analysis

- Tijeras Group 1 includes pottery from the Tijeras Site at Tijeras Pueblo, NM, and contains unique types of pottery that are not found in other areas.
- Tijeras Group 2 includes pottery from the Tijeras Site at Tijeras Pueblo, NM, and contains unique types of pottery that are not found in other areas.
- Tijeras Group 3 includes pottery from the Tijeras Site at Tijeras Pueblo, NM, and contains unique types of pottery that are not found in other areas.
- Tijeras Group 4 includes pottery from the Tijeras Site at Tijeras Pueblo, NM, and contains unique types of pottery that are not found in other areas.
- Tijeras Group 5 includes pottery from the Tijeras Site at Tijeras Pueblo, NM, and contains unique types of pottery that are not found in other areas.
- Tijeras Group 6 includes pottery from the Tijeras Site at Tijeras Pueblo, NM, and contains unique types of pottery that are not found in other areas.

Research Questions

- What does the presence of these Western-style glaze wares tell us about processes of immigration, local settlement, and community formation at Tijeras and in the Central Rio Grande Valley?

NIAA Analysis

Methods
- 219 Tijeras sherds (30 Tijeras Utility wares and a mix of Rio Grande and Western-style glaze-painted red wares and polychromes) were analyzed by INAA using Neutron Activation Analysis using the Texas A&M Nuclear Science Center's 1.25 MeV TRIGA Research Reactor. Sample preparation included sieving, crushing, and homogenization before being separated into thin sections and digested for routine chemical analysis.

Conclusions and Significance

- Petrographic and NIAA analysis clearly confirm that some (possibly most) of the Western-style glaze-painted pottery recovered from Tijeras Pueblo was made locally in the Albuquerque area of the Central Rio Grande.
- The source of the redder paste Western-style glaze wares, tempered with sherd or sherd and schist, was found to be more than 30 miles away from Tijeras Pueblo, and may be associated with the Acoma region.
- Comparative NAA studies of Acoma glaze wares are needed to confirm this assumption.

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References Cited