Santa Clara Historical Museum

The Santa Clara Historical Museum is located in the basement of the Santa Clara Utah city hall building.

The museum contains artifacts from prehistoric to historic times. The purpose of the visit was to view the prehistoric artifacts housed in the museum. Of special note was the pottery collection.

The pottery was found and documented in a report "The Frei Site, Santa Clara Utah" by David Pendergast, A Special Report to the Utah Park and Recreation Department, Department of Anthropology, University of Utah, 1960.

According to the report:

"The sherds and whole vessels recovered from the Frei site represent a greater quantity of many Virgin branch pottery types than has previously been available for study. In addition to providing considerable information on vessel forms, analysis of the pottery presents an opportunity for a more detailed study of the characteristics of Virgin branch ceramics than has been possible in the past."

"…All of the pottery recovered at the Frei site appears to fall in the Pueblo II – Pueblo III range. Since so little is known of the Virgin branch, it is possible that the above mentioned types may have persisted later than is now believed. No absolute dates can be given for the Pueblo II – Pueblo III period in the Virgin Branch, since it is suspected that developments in this area lagged behind those farther to the east. It is probable, however, that the major occupation of the Frei site occurred in the 12th Century AD."

The identification of the figures is from the report and my best guess in associating the artifact with the photographs in the report.

North Creek Gray handled bowl or cup
North Creek Gray olla, fugitive red coating

Middleton black on red "Squash Pot"

North Creek Gray canteen, heavy fugitive red coating

Middleton red on black "Squash" pot
Snake Valley Gray handled bowl or cup

Middleton black on red "Squash Pot"

Black on White double vessel, Pueblo II
Sosi designs

Mano and Metate

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John Mangels