Southwestern Archaeology is dominated by research on Pueblan people, in part due to a durable architectural tradition and temporal depth of their occupation. However, an early Navajo archaeology, of the Dinetah region in northwest New Mexico, was part of the earliest southwestern investigations carried out by likes of A.V. Kidder, Nels Nelson, and A.E. Douglas. Since then many have contributed to a Navajo archaeological scholarship that focused on the four themes of origins, culture change, expansion, and adaptation. I focus on culture change and adaptation of the Navajo People during a time of great unrest, the Pueblo Revolt era. Using a collection excavated by Dorothy Keur in the 1930’s, I examine and compare the technological variability and practices associated with Navajo painted pottery production in the late seventeenth and eighteenth century. The production of buff-colored, painted pottery by Navajo people is significant because it was unprecedented in their grayware pottery tradition. Also, this painted pottery, called Gobernador Polychrome, was part of a much wider ceramic paradigm shift that occurred after the Pueblo Revolt in much of the northern Southwest. I propose that their participation in this wider pottery practice was a product of their considerable interaction with pueblo people and the depth of their participation in the Pueblo Revolt.

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