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**Western National
Parks Association**

Press Release

Clay, Copper & Turquoise The Museum Collection of Chaco Culture National Historical Park

The museum collection of northwest New Mexico's Chaco Culture National Historical Park includes everything from finely handcrafted pottery, to delicately beaded necklaces, to durable yet artful shoes. For the first time ever, readers have the opportunity to see these one-of-a-kind items in the new book *Clay, Copper & Turquoise: The Museum Collection of Chaco Culture National Historical Park*.

Written by the National Park Service archeologists who care for the Chaco collection, *Clay, Copper & Turquoise* gives readers the opportunity to see everything up-close. Thanks to high-quality color photography, readers experience intricately painted jars and delicate shell pendants and bracelets. The items are accompanied by brief text, which gives the artifacts' approximate ages and describes their sizes and possible uses. Introductory text also adds to the reader's understanding of the artifacts and, more importantly, the people who made them.

The items—most more than 800 years old—are rarely, if ever, on display, making *Clay, Copper & Turquoise* the only place to truly witness the beauty and artistry that is everyday Chaco culture.

The pieces in *Clay, Copper & Turquoise* came from the daily lives of the Chacoan people—created by their hands or obtained through trade. Fashioned with care, skill, and a sense of beauty, these objects bring the past alive and paint a picture of a people living in an extraordinary land, in an extraordinary time.

Clay, Copper & Turquoise by the National Park Service
ISBN 1-58369-045-X
48 pages, 7 1/2 x 8 1/2, \$7.95

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