Tusayan White Wares


General Characteristics
Paint: organic
Paste: light; usually with carbon streak
Temper: sand, sherd sometimes in Flagstaff and Dogoszho or later types
Slip: none on early types, but very thin slip may be present Black Mesa and later

Lino Black-on-gray
AD 550-850 (610-800)
Designs are crudely executed, consisting of rows of triangles and sawtooth lines, dot filled areas, and ticked or fringed lines. The designs often resemble those found on baskets and textiles. The Cibola White Ware, La Plata B/W sometimes has similar designs, but is painted with mineral paint.

Kana-a B/W
AD 725-1000 (850-900)
Designs consist of thin (1-2mm) lines that often overlap or do not meet. Short, choppy brushstrokes are diagnostic. Common elements are parallel to solid elements, rows of triangles, and flagged triangles. Triangle tips often have protruding lines. Ticked lines (rather than dots) are diagnostic. Kiathuthlana B/W is similar but with mineral paint. St. Joseph B/W has the same design style but has sherd temper and a dark paste.

Black Mesa B/W
AD 1000-1100
Dense black paint is common. Designs are similar to Kana-a but are bigger, bolder, and have broader lines. There is still a high ratio of white to black. Common elements are stripes (wide) and a variety of solids (usually rectilinear, but curvilinear elements are more common in this type than in any other). Solid areas often have large pendant dots; large opposed triangles, some time forming rows of negative diamonds; negative squares with center dotes and interlocking scrolls and checkerboards are common. Rims are unpainted. Holbrook B/W variety A has the same design style, but has dark paste and sherd temper. Some designs are similar to Red Mesa B/W which has mineral paint.

Sosi B/W
AD 1070-1180
Rectilinear designs consist of broad lines (5-7mm), solid triangles (barbs) that are often interlocking. Interlocking broad-line hooks are also common. The ratio of black to white is usually nearly even, although white dominates sometimes. Holbrook B/W variety B has the same design style, but has dark paste and sherd temper. Designs are similar to Escava B/W which has mineral paint.

Flagstaff B/W
AD 1150-1220
Designs are extremely varied but opposed barbed lines are diagnostic. Oblique (diagonal) and rectangular cross-hatching, cribbed lines, interlocking rectilinear hooks, and stacked chevrons are common. Elements are usually smaller and more densely packed in the Flagstaff style than in earlier styles. Flagstaff B/W often has sherd or sand and sherd temper. Walnut B/W variety A is in Flagstaff style but has sand temper and light paste.
Dogozhí B/W
AD 1040-1220
Oblique (diagonal) hatched designs are diagnostic. Note that framing lines are usually the same width as the hatching lines. Motifs are usually rectilinear but are sometimes curvilinear, especially in “claw” designs. Running bands are very common. Padre B/W has the same design style but has dark paste and sherd temper. Chaco/Gallup B/W also have the same design style but are painted with mineral paint.

Tusayan B/W
AD 1200-1300
Common designs include small triangles set along straight lines, single and double sided sawtooth lines, opposed sets of triangles with their points touching leaving diamond shaped spaces with a single dot, interlocking scrolls, and large solid areas with serrated edges. Coarse cross-hatching sometimes occurs as background. Diagnostic characteristic is that the painted areas are greater than unpainted areas. Kayenta B/W is similar but also has the “mosquito-bar” design (see illustrations). Flagstaff B/W is similar but has an excess of white areas.

Kayenta B/W
AD 1200-1300
Common elements include the negative “mosquito-bar” effect, paneled designs with contain narrow line cross-hatching, stepped elements, opposed stepped elements, and rarely interlocking scrolls or finely barbed wide lines. Overall design style is very similar to Tusayan B/W the addition of the “mosquito-bar” effect. This may be a variation of Tusayan B/W although the Kayenta style of decoration is more widespread than this type.

Little Colorado White Wares

_descriptions based on Colton 1955 and Hays-Gilpin and Van Hartesveldt 1998_.

**General Characteristics**

*Paint:* organic
*Paste:* dark; same color throughout
*Temper:* sherd; appears as white or tan angular fragments
*Slip:* usually thick

St. Joseph B/W
AD 825-950 (1050?)
Design style is the same as Kana’a B/W, but St. Joseph is always slipped (often thick slip). St. Joseph B/W is very rare in most parts of northern Arizona. Kiathuthlana B/W is similar but with mineral paint. Kana’a B/W has the same design style but has sand temper and a lighter paste.

Holbrook B/W
AD 1050-1150
There are two varieties of Holbrook B/W (A and B). Holbrook A is the stylistic equivalent to Black Mesa B/W, but with dark paste and sherd temper. Holbrook B is the stylistic equivalent of Sosi B/W with LCWW paste. Although the Black Mesa and Sosi design styles appear to have different temporal ranges, both Holbrook A and B are contemporaneous in many areas where they are found. Some designs are similar to Red Mesa B/W which has mineral paint.
Padre B/W
AD 1100-1250
This type is stylistically equivalent to Dogoszhi B/W, but with dark paste and sherd temper. Padre B/W is more frequently found in bowl forms than the other types painted in this style. Chaco/Gallup B/W also have the same design style but are painted with mineral paint.

Walnut B/W
AD 1100-1250
Common designs include small, crowded elements, interlocking triangles, bands of interlocking scrolls or triangles divided by bands of thin lines (sometimes serrated). Infrequently, Walnut B/W has opposed hatched and crowded solid areas (Wingate or Tularosa style). Two varieties have been identified. Walnut A is basically in Flagstaff style and Walnut B is in Walnut style. Walnut B is probably somewhat later. Flagstaff B/W is similar but has light paste and sand temper and is never in Walnut style.

Leupp B/W
AD 1200-1250+
Common elements include small, closely spaced cross-hatching, fringed lines, spirals, triangles and parallel lines. The design field has a high ratio of black to white and may have negative designs. Tusayan B/W is similar but has a light paste and sand temper. Pinedale B/W is also similar but has a light paste and fewer negative designs. Leupp is similar to Klagetoh B/W which has mineral paint, fewer negative designs and thicker vessel walls.

Useful References

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Kana’a B/W style

Black Mesa B/W style

Sosi B/W style

Dogoszhi B/W style

Flagstaff B/W style

Tusayan B/W style