

ABSTRACT

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TITLE: Palynological Dating of Ariz U:9:100 (ASU)

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Pollen analysis of sediment samples from this archaeological site was undertaken to determine the value of pollen work as a dating technique in the desert scrub zone of the Sonoran Desert. Working only from a knowledge of the stratigraphic position of the samples and the phases of occupation at the locality, the palynologists assessed ecological variations occurring in the site environs through time. They compared these variations with those of a dated pollen chronology reconstructed for the Colorado Plateau, and presented the archaeologist with absolute age estimates for specific features at the site. These age estimates compare favorably with those independently derived from ceramic analysis, and provide somewhat finer chronological placement in certain cases.