

The Adventurers' Companion: Lowry Pueblo

This is a good spot to examine the landscape around you. Today, the gentle rolling hillsides and fertile mesas are covered with a mixture of shrubs and small trees. All this greenery is modern growth and the scene would have looked far different during the heyday of Lowry Pueblo.

Most trees were used as timbers in building the pueblo while smaller shrubs quickly disappeared into cooking and warming fires. In their place, the Anasazi created fields and gardens growing their principal crops: corn, squash, and beans. Had you visited then, you would have been treated to an ever changing view: vibrant greens during the growing season, golden browns as harvest time approached, and reddish brown earth dotted with field markers and irrigation channels after the harvest.

You would also have seen a number of nearby structures. Lowry was the heart of a substantial community and surrounding mesas sported pueblos, kivas, towers, and field houses. Visible reminders of the connection to Chaco included roads and shrines as well as small, circular stone structures thought to have been signaling stations. Remnants of these structures are hidden beneath the brush and I recommend against exploring them. None have been stabilized for visitation and there is little to see aside from scattered stones and occasional