



# Bright Angel Pueblo

## Understanding Those Who Came Before



Above: Bright Angel Pueblo (as seen from the South Kaibab Trail) was one in a network of thriving communities canyonwide.

Right (middle): Tusayan black on red pottery sherds and Pueblo corn pollen were found in this and many other inner-canyon sites.

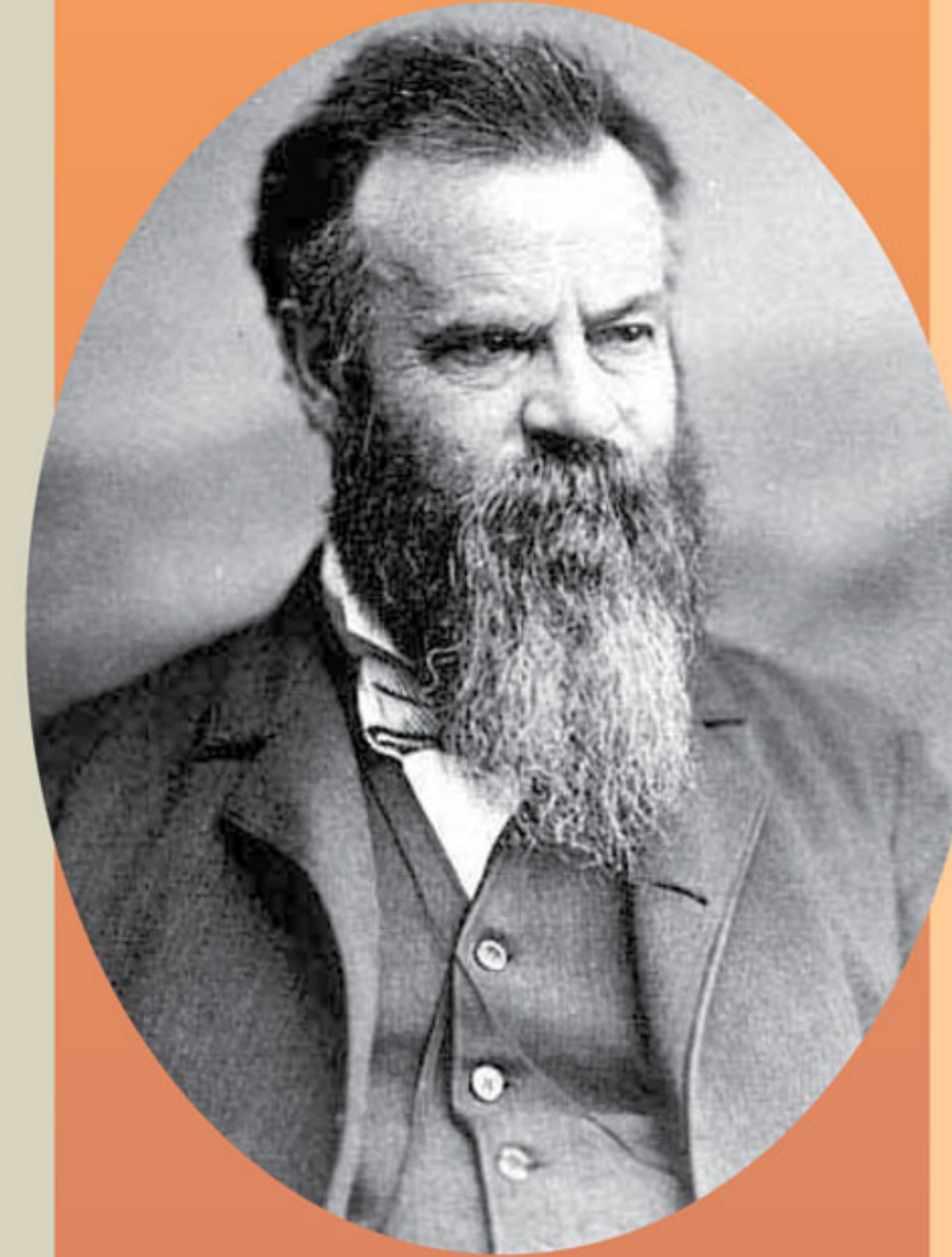
The ancestral Puebloan people lived in the Grand Canyon area from approximately A.D. 500 to 1250. The most extensive occupation occurred between 1050 and 1150.



### Canyon Farmers

Life was difficult for the ancestral Puebloan people. Mainly a farming community, they supplemented crops grown on the nearby Bright Angel delta with game and wild plants.

## Modern Discovery, Research, & Excavation



John Wesley Powell led the first river trip along the Colorado River through Grand Canyon in 1869.

We can only imagine the curiosity with which John Wesley Powell and his Colorado River exploration crew first examined this site in 1869. Powell described it as containing “two or three old houses.” Later research would reveal that Powell fairly accurately characterized the site, despite its partially collapsed condition.

Below: Archeologists led by Dr. Douglas Schwartz excavated this site. Imagine the excitement as pieces of the story were unearthed with each shovel of dirt.

Interested in the story of Grand Canyon’s early inhabitants, Douglas Schwartz of the School of American Research, excavated the site in 1969. This research allows us to better understand the ancestral Puebloan culture and its relationship to modern Puebloan people and others on the Colorado Plateau.

