**FIGURE 1. MAP OF BASKETMAKER REGION**

The Baskemakers were groups of sedentary agriculturists in the American Southwest dating from 1500 B.C. to A.D. 500. They were the basket-making ancestors to the Ancestral Pueblos (formally known as the Anasazi), who are well known for their pottery and cliff dwellings at places like Mesa Verde. Less is known about the Basketmaker populations, which occupied an large geographical area with varying climates and available resources. Fig. 1. Previous research has focused on their basketry, pottery, site, and agriculture, but few studies have addressed their skeletal biology. In this regard, Harvard University's Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology and the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology (this Penn Museum) have been fortunate due to the presence of mummified remains identified as “Basketmaker” in their collections (Figs. 2, 8).

**CASE STUDY #1: “WOMAN & CHILD”**

The Penn Museum archive records state that this “Woman & Child” were recovered from a cave in Red Canyon, Utah (Figures 1, 2). This unusual double burial features a child resting on the adult’s abdomen, cradled in its arms. Artifacts include personal effects worn in life and objects of burial preparation. Animal hides were placed between the adult and child. Juniper shavings were present under the flexed legs of the child. Small, wooden sticks pierced the adult’s ears and bound the child’s hair. It is speculated that these items were used to create a shroud or a child’s dress for a shroud. The adult has a plant fiber nose plug in both nostrils. A red spray paint was used to create a shroud around the child’s upper body. A rabbit skin was present on top of the child’s head and covered her legs. A coiled blanket covers her body. This discovery provides additional information about Basketmaker culture and its burial practices.

**CASE STUDY #2: “PROBABLE FEMALE”**

CT scan data and 3D modeling of her skeleton show developing dentition and unfused epiphyses, indicating an age of about 14 years (Figures 11-12). Gross examination noted abnormally enlarged breast tissue and distended abdominal tissue (Figure 10). Typically, mummified tissues of the abdomen remain intact due to desiccation (Figure 14), but her abdominal tissues do not. 3D modeling also shows a markedly expanded ribcage (Compare Figures 12 and 13). Gross examination of preserved tissues confirmed an extensive external examination. These features suggest late stage pregnancy or recent birth.

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