

ACOTW™

Welcome To

www.ArrowheadCollectingOnTheWeb.com

Volume I, Number 2

June 2009

Welcome To The Second Edition ... Continuing The Journey In Our On-Going Search To Collect Arrowheads On The Web.

Thank you for requesting a subscription to our newsletter, "Arrowhead Collecting On The Web".

I hope you enjoyed the first introductory edition, Volume I, Number 1, of our digital on-line newsletter.

Since the Premiere Edition was released in mid-May 2009, the reality of producing a monthly newsletter has struck home.

It seems as though I am always working on it. Deciding on article ideas, chasing sources, finding photographs or getting materials together for new photos, writing, organizing, and then producing the newsletter. Yet, I knew all of that work would be involved from the beginning. Most important, though, I hope you have enjoyed the results.

"Arrowhead Collecting On The Web", will provide an on-going series of articles and graphic presentations of information related to the many different aspects of finding and learning about the relics of previous cultures which remain to be found today. This edition addresses the following topics:

- How do you find quality arrowhead-related websites?
- Are there key words to use in searches?



This month we have a special treat: the first person story of the Crain Clovis point discovery. You will learn about how surprising and rewarding "Creek Walking" can be, as told by David Crain, who found this Clovis Point in 2006.

- What types of arrowhead or spear point names are useful in internet searches?
- What if I am interested in regional types of points?
- How can I find businesses which are interested in buying and selling arrowheads?
- Does eBay have any review of seller practices related to artifacts such as Indian arrowheads? Any there any protections for buyers? Any specific business related requirements for sellers?
- What is a "Dovetail"?
- Collections from far, far away and long, long ago.
- How old are these points? Are there some general guidelines which can help to know the kind and age of the points I find or collect?
- I have lots of broken points and tools ... what can I learn from them?
- When did the native peoples of North America begin using bows and arrows? What about people in other areas of the world?

(continued...)

- Can I get arrowheads from other areas of the world?
- Can I tell the difference between an ancient arrowhead and a modern reproduction arrowhead?
- What is a Certificate of Authenticity?
- What is an artifact Authenticator?
- What information is important to keep for the points and tools in my collection?
- How can we share photos of our collections, or of specific arrowheads?
- What is an effective way to display my growing collection of arrowheads?

This is a list of many of the subjects which we discuss in this second edition of the newsletter "Arrowhead Collecting On The Web".

Our editorial objective is to help our readers become long-term, even serious collectors of arrowheads, over the years to come. There are several things which we hope to accomplish for you in this process:

- Help you find new points and understand what it is that you are finding;
- Help you to learn about all the different aspects of collecting;
- Help you to recognize the different kinds and styles of collectable arrowheads and other implements;
- Help you to understand about the life ways of the cultures represented by the stone tools which remain;

- Help you to discover ways to find good and desirable arrowheads from other sources, such as eBay and special subject web sites;
- Help you to learn about point quality and authenticity, so that you understand about point value and character;
- Help you understand about modern flint knapping, how new points and implements are made, how to recognize them, and how to appreciate those items for the skill and the craftsmanship of the work which they exhibit;
- Help you to recognize that some people still try to sell unsuspecting collectors items which may or may not be what the item is described to be, that you should be careful when you think about buying points for your collection;
- Help you to learn about authentication services and their value to you as a collector.

As we do these things, we will maintain your readership and interest in our newsletter for many years to come.

Thank you for your participation, and your interest in "Arrowhead Collecting On The Web".

Sincerely,
F. Scott Crawford
Carrollton, Texas

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www.ArrowheadCollectingOnTheWeb.com
F. Scott Crawford, Carrollton, Texas



About The Author

From the time when I was 13 or 14 in the forested foothills of the western Oregon Willamette Valley and found my first arrowhead, an obsidian "bird point," in a field my dad had plowed for an experimental crop of maize, I have always wondered about the people who used these stone tools, how they lived, and what became of them.

Some friends had collected Indian artifacts in the desert areas of eastern Oregon and my brothers and I all enjoyed looking at their display of those arrowheads. So, to find some points of our own, on the family land, was particularly exciting. After that, whenever we were working in the bean fields, or tending livestock, or moving irrigation pipes, or just wandering across the back 40, we always would keep an eye out for bits and pieces of worked stone, tools and points, to add to our growing collection.

Today, I still keep an eye out for remnants of past cultures. And as the world has changed so much, I can now do much, but not all, of that wandering and learning on the internet, on the world wide web. That's how I came to be collecting arrowheads on the web, and why I began to put together this newsletter, for others across the land who also are interested in "Arrowhead Collecting On The Web".

FSC

p.s. There is still a time and a place for criss crossing a plowed field, or walking along the banks of a stream, just to see what you might find. Knowing where to look and how, is part of what we plan to explore in the pages of "Arrowhead Collecting On The Web." Read, learn, find, enjoy.

p.p.s. You are invited to visit my flint knapping web site:
www.Arrowhead-Maker.com

How To Find Quality, Arrowhead-Related Web Sites

You can begin your search for quality, authentic arrowheads by using the Google or Yahoo or MSN or Ask search engines on the internet.

“*Keyword*” search words could include: arrowheads, Indian arrowheads, spear heads, flint arrowheads, stone arrowheads, stone points, stone knives, flint knives, authentic arrowheads, Indian artifacts. Just type the word or phrase in the search entry space and hit “enter”. Your system will show the first 10 or 12 uses of that term which it found during the search. You can click on the entries which are of interest to you.

You could also use “*type*” searches, with the specific names of some artifacts; such as: Clovis point, Folsom point, Gunther point, Agee point, Dalton point, Humboldt point, Scottsbluff point. Again, click on the entries which intrigue.

“*Regional*” searches, using geographic names; i.e., Texas arrowheads, Oregon arrowheads, California arrowheads, Oklahoma arrowheads, Ohio arrowheads, Missouri arrowheads, Florida arrowheads, etc. “*Dealer*” searches could include such terms as: artifact dealers, arrowhead dealers, Indian artifact dealers.

As you check out the sites you discover, read carefully the descriptions, philosophies and guarantees. Then, on the web sites you like, follow the “*Links*” provided to other sites recommended by that site’s operator.

Always be careful, and keep track of the web sites you like.



In this set of 12 arrowheads from the Pacific Northwest, 9 points come from the Leroy Brown Collection which were surface collected in the late 1950’s and early 1960’s in and around the Klamath Lake area of Oregon and down into Modoc County, California. The remaining 3 points (in the upper left corner of photo) come from the Guild Collection. They were surface collected between the early 1950’s to the early 1970’s by Orabelle and Charles Guild in and around southern and eastern Lake County and Deschutes County in Central and Southeastern Oregon. I obtained this set in 2007 from Michael Knighton of www.RenegadeArtifacts.com, eBay seller ID “1muduck2”. The largest point in this set is 1-9/16” long, and the shortest is 13/16” long.



This set of 13 arrowheads from the Pacific Northwest, comes from the Daryl Baker “Oregon Territory” Indian Artifact Collection, begun in the early 1950’s when Baker was in High School, and continued to be assembled during the 1960’s. His collection contained stone utilitarian objects such as projectile points, darts, lanceolates, blades, knives and scrapers. The 3000+ piece collection was composed of about 85% Columbia River and 15% Great Basin American Indian artifacts which were discarded or inadvertently lost during the course of daily activities. I obtained this set in 2007 from Michael Knighton of www.RenegadeArtifacts.com, eBay seller ID “1muduck2”. The largest point in this set is 1-1/4” long, and the shortest is 7/16” long.

eBay Enforces Strict Requirements On Descriptions & Methods Used By Artifact Sellers ... To Protect Buyers And Also eBay.

The following information comes directly from the eBay Policies pages regarding the sale of Artifacts on eBay:

"Artifacts, grave-related items, and Native American crafts

"Native American crafts, artifacts, grave-related items, and cave formations are protected under the law. eBay works with the Department of the Interior, Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and Federal Bureau of Investigation by creating policies to protect these items.

"The laws that apply to these items include the [Indian Arts and Crafts Act](#), the [Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act](#) and the [Cave Resources Protection Act of 1988](#).

"Sellers must follow the law and eBay policy whenever listing any of these protected items.

"Violations of this policy may result in a range of actions, including:

- Listing cancellation
- Limits on account privileges
- Account suspension
- Forfeit of eBay fees on cancelled listings
- Loss of PowerSeller status

"Some Examples:

"Native American arts and crafts

"Sellers need to follow federal law when describing an art or craft item produced or made after 1935 as a Native American piece. Under the [Indian Arts and Crafts Act](#), all arts or crafts offered for sale as American Indian or Alaska Native must be made by an enrolled member of a state or federally recognized Indian tribe or by an individual certified as an Indian artisan by the governing body of an Indian tribe. If you're representing your arts and crafts as an "American Indian" or "Alaska Native" piece, you're required to include the name of the artisan who made the item, as well as the name of the tribe. If the artisan isn't a member of a tribe, but is certified by the governing body of a tribe, this information must be in the listing. Authentic Native American arts and crafts should be

listed in the Collectibles > Cultures & Ethnicities > Native Americana categories.

"If the artisan name and tribe or certifying tribe is unknown, the piece can't be described as "Native American," "American Indian," or "Alaska Native." These items also can't be listed in the Native Americana category, which is designed for authentic Native American arts and crafts.

"eBay supports the letter and spirit of the Indian Arts and Crafts Act, so sellers can't use words like "Indian Style," "Native American Style," or "Native American Reproduction." These labels can confuse buyers and make it hard for them to find authentic items.

"Native American reproductions

"Native American reproductions must be clearly marked as reproductions in both the title and body of the description. The font size of this text must be identical to that of the rest of the listing.

"In addition, these items must be listed in the Native Americana > Reproductions category. If you don't use the correct category or font size, the listing will be ended. This policy applies to all Native American items, including crafts and artifacts.

"Artifacts, relics, and fossils

"Sellers listing artifacts, relics, or fossils on eBay must make sure their items are authentic and from the time period of the category of their listings. Any modernizing or reworking of the item must be fully described in the listing. If the item is a reproduction, it must clearly say it's a reproduction in both the title and body of the description. Also, these items need to be listed in a proper reproduction or fantasy category.

"Sellers aren't permitted to list any artifact, relic, or fossil taken from any federal or state public land. These areas include lands managed by the National Park Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and U.S. Forest Service. Sellers aren't permitted to list

any artifact or relic taken from Native American land or any battlefield.

"Additionally, sellers aren't permitted to list antiquities of cultural significance without the proper documentation from the country of origin. This includes artifacts from ancient civilizations and pieces of historical landmarks like the Egyptian pyramids, Roman coliseums, or the Great Wall of China. Listings must include information (either an image or a link to a scan of the documentation) showing the item is legal to sell or import/export.

"Native American graves and items of cultural significance

"Sellers aren't permitted to list items from Native American or Native Hawaiian gravesites, like human remains, grave markers, or any funerary objects placed with the dead.

"Sellers also can't list sacred objects used by Native American religious leaders in their ceremonial practices — such as prayer sticks and ceremonial masks.

"The federal [Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act](#) describes these rules.

"An item legally removed from private land may be sold. However, government survey markers, like those issued and marked by the U.S. Geological Survey, can't be listed unless the listing includes information (either an image or a link to a scan of the documentation) showing proof that the government has transferred ownership to a private party.

"Additional Information

"eBay cooperates with the Department of the Interior, Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and Federal Bureau of Investigation in determining what items may lawfully be sold.

"Why Does eBay Have This Policy?

"Because the sale of artifacts, grave-related items, and Native American crafts is regulated by law, sellers must follow the law when they list those items."

Nevertheless, "caveat emptor" remains a good piece of advice to all buyers. -FSC

The Discovery Of The Crain Clovis Point Somewhere Near Houston In 2006 A.D. -- *A Texas Adventure By David Crain*

The holy grail of arrowhead hunting is finding a Clovis point. Even a broken example is regarded as a find of a lifetime by many, myself included.

On Aug 26, 2006 my friend Clayton Vandergriff and I made one of many return trips to the eroding site where he and Mike Walker had found several Scottsbluff points recently. Not just Scottsbluff points, but incredible well made masterpieces of prehistoric art taking the Scottsbluff form. All washing out within a few feet of each other in the same undisclosed location within the Houston city limits! Hardly any of Houston's two million residents would ever suspect that parts of the largest city in Texas is sitting just inches above such archaeological treasures!

As soon as we arrived a big thunderstorm broke and the rain began to fall. After traveling a hundred miles to this spot I really didn't want to get rained out! As the water began to slowly rise, we began retrieving flint artifacts that were mixed in with the sand, mud, sticks and modern trash which had become lodged within some concrete "rocks" that had been strategically placed to slow soil erosion. The chunks of concrete seem to have been doing their job to some extent, at least they were catching some of what was washing past them.

We had each found two or three arrowpoints and some other fairly common artifacts, were talking and looking, when this showed up:

I saw the base first, the tip was covered by sand and mud. I

think I stopped talking in the middle of a word, I was literally speechless. I was also afraid to look and see if the tip was there, so many broken pieces come with a lifetime of arrowhead hunting. I almost shut my eyes while I let Clayton pull it from the muck. I am sure I didn't breath. When we saw it was whole I almost fainted. After our whooping and hollering episode I sat it in a safe spot. Throughout the day I had to go back and look at it several times in disbelief. Was I just dreaming?

(continued...)



This is the first photo taken of the Clovis, just hours after being seen for the first time in over 12,000 years!



These photos show both sides. The edge is lightly ground, stopping at the widest part of the point.

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(...continued from p. 5)

Clovis is the oldest flint point type that has been recognized in North America. The Clovis culture is approximately 12,500 years old. Clovis points have even been found with mammoth bones, including such a find at the Miami site in the Texas Panhandle. A point like this is definitely a find of a lifetime! It is amazing to have made this connection with the past. Imagine how different things were here in Clovis times.

Today we worry about global warming, but the Clovis people were worried about coping with the Ice Age! What would the Clovis person who made this point have looked like? Surely he or she would have been wearing a heavy layer of fur clothing. I imagine a quite woolly appearance resulting from efforts to cope with the cold. And yet, as cold as it would have been here, Texas would have been quite warm compared to many locations further north where people were living in the open areas between the glaciers.

There is more and more evidence that the Clovis people were descended from much earlier sea faring people, who originally travelled the shorelines far offshore of what is our present day surfline. But at the time this point was made the nearest ocean could have been almost 100 miles further out than Texas' present day coastline. The Clovis person who made this point might have been dieting on roasted mammoth or other megafauna, but judging by the Clovis research at the Gault site in nearby Central Texas, he would



The day's finds. The numerous arrowpoints found closely associated with the Clovis emphasises the dislocated nature of these finds. We ended up with a whole handful of arrowpoints that day.

have been just as likely to be eating turtle soup, or at least eating out of a turtle shell bowl! When I first saw this Clovis I immediately thought about the Eastern Hazel variety Clovis point type. After looking through the descriptions in all the reference material I could find, I now think it is a Ross County Clovis. Ross County is a Clovis variety that is reported over more than the Eastern Half of North America. As noted by Greg Perino in his Ross County description, Dr. Hester reported on a similar form of Clovis point found all the way down in Central America.



We named this one the "Clovis Perdiz" as it was found right with the Clovis. Everything we've recovered here has been washed out by recent floodwaters.

I always dreamed about finding something like this but never really expected to. Clayton has been saying for years that the creek was going to give me a good paleo, but I guarantee this wasn't exactly what he was expecting!

I thank God for blessing me with the opportunity and ability to make my find of lifetime. I am thankful to the Big Chief for allowing us all of these finds. Also, we are all very thankful to the undisclosed landowner who has granted us permission to salvage these artifacts and study and record this previously untold story!

References Cited:

Turner & Hester

"FIELD GUIDE TO STONE ARTIFACTS OF THE TEXAS INDIANS"

Gregory Perino

"SELECTED PREFORMS POINTS AND KNIVES OF THE NORTH AMERICAN INDIANS"

Photos & Text ©2006-2007.

David Crain

www.Texasarrowheads.com

What's A "Dovetail"?

The Archaic period knife form which is called a "Dovetail" is a very effective tool, since it was used for many centuries, even millennia, throughout the Archaic period and across the central and eastern regions of the North American continent.

The "Dovetail" knife is almost always resharpened by removing short flakes from one face at an angle of about 60 degrees. This bevelling is performed along both edges in the same direction. The advantage of resharpening the knife in this manner is that the blade does not have to be removed from the handle to be given a new cutting edge when it gets dull from use.

I think the "Dovetail" description originated because the resharpened and used knife tends to become narrower and narrower through its life cycle, which leads to a shape very similar to the tail of a wild dove in flight; it flares wide right at the start of the tail feathers and then sweeps backward into a narrow point at the end.

These 3 early Archaic period Dove-tails were found by Bruce Filbrandt in Illinois. The top piece is 3-3/8" in length, of greyish white, high grade flint. The second measures 3-1/4". And the third is 3-1/8" long. All three exhibit excellent craftsmanship, classic shape and outstanding pressure flaking, with superior basal grinding. These were sold at auction from Filbrandt's collection many years ago, and recently obtained from that buyer, eBay ID "rgh61", an AACA member who offers a lifetime guarantee of authenticity, with no time limit on return if accompanied by a reputable authenticator's statement.



When You Go Out To Hunt For Ancient Civilizations, Make Sure You Always Take Your Digital Camera!



Wherever you live in North America, you are close to areas where native populations lived in ancient times.

A very beneficial day trip can take you to national parks and national monuments which preserve these ancient sites for all time. Or to smaller sites which may be maintained as state or regional parks.

You will also be able to visit archaeological project sites which are open to public visitors. Sometimes these are on-going projects which you can observe. In addition, if you are interested and in good physical health, you may be able to participate in local archaeological society projects. Don't leave your digital camera at home.

“Mesa Verde” National Park, in the southwest corner of Colorado, just north of Farmington, New Mexico. Built from about 1190 A.D., for almost one hundred years, these cliff face apartments in the canyons sheltered a significant “ancestral Puebloan” population. Then, about 1300, they simply moved away with no certain forwarding address. This is Cliff Palace, the largest of the cliff dwellings in Mesa Verde, with over 150 rooms.



“Battle Dome”, in Siskiyou County of northern California, just south of Mt. Shasta. The site of the last major battle fought with bows and arrows and stone-tipped spears. Now a California State Park. Take nothing but photographs, leave nothing but foot prints. It is a granite monolith, well chosen for battle.

Visiting Distant Places Vicariously ... Where Others Have Found Traces Of Cultures Far, Far Away, And Long, Long Ago.

When you go hunting for arrowheads on the web, sometimes you find specimens from collections made many decades ago. Like these points which I recently obtained, via eBay, from an artifact dealer in Nevada.

These arrowheads were found and collected originally during the 1940's by James Watson. The points range from the Middle Archaic to the Woodland periods. They are thus actually dart points which were used with "atlatls" or spear throwers. These time periods lasted from about 5,500 to 1,800 years before the present, all of which was before the use of bow and arrow in the New World.

Watson found them in the Black Rock Desert, Washoe County, in northwestern Nevada. As the dealer describes this area, the Black Rock Desert is a "remote, desolate and totally fresh-waterless region."

Today, "all travelers must bring their own water and be prepared to exercise desert survival skills." Yet, for thousands of years, the native peoples of North America hunted in and lived off of this desolate land. "I'm sure each one of these arrowheads has a history and if only they could talk..."

The points are made from obsidian, basalt and different colors of quartz materials.

The eBay ID of the dealer from whom I purchased these points is: Jeanine292.



Regional Point Types With Generally Accepted Range Of Ages For Spear, Lance & Dart Points, Knife Blades & Arrowheads.



A Word To The Wise, When You Consider Buying Artifacts On The Internet Or In Person From An Individual Or A Company.

Do not let the excitement of a new find distract you from careful consideration of the authenticity and the history of the point or tool you are contemplating.

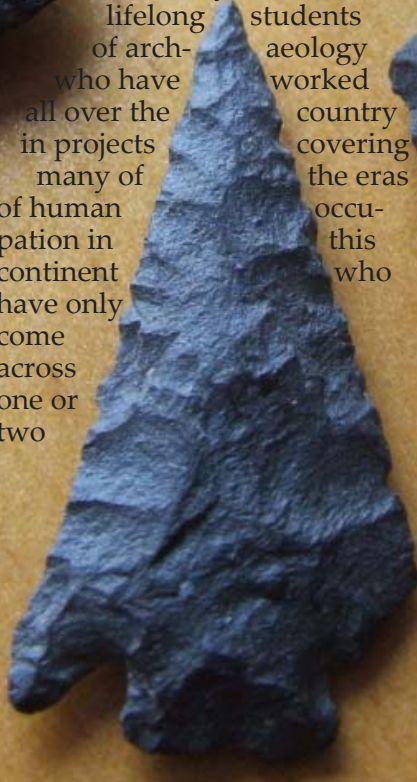
If a story sounds too good to be true, likely it is too good to be true. Develop a relationship with the seller so that you can decide the level of trust you can place on his or her word.

Ask for as full an account of the history of the point as may be available.

This is called the "provenance" of the point. It should include the name of the finder, the place, the date, and a description of the circumstances or special conditions under which the discovery was made. Also you should ask for a full list of previous owners of the point or tool, if you are not obtaining it from the original finder.

Whenever possible, you should inquire about and even require a certificate of authenticity from a respected source.

Almost any collector to whom you speak will have a story of how he bought a point from someone whom he thought was trustworthy, only to later find out that the point was either unknowingly or deliberately sold as authentic, when in reality it might have been a



modern-made copy or reproduction point. For example, when you are looking at supposed "Paleo-Indian" artifacts, it would be well to

keep in mind that, in most parts of the country, these artifacts are extremely rare. I know lifelong students of archaeology who have worked all over the country in projects covering many of the eras of human occupation in this continent have only come across one or two

authentic Paleo-Indian relics such as a Clovis spear point or a Folsom dart point. When these points are found in scientific excavations they are celebrated and carefully cata-

logged for future study and reference. When they might be found on private land, by individuals, these points and tools are often carefully preserved and put away, well out

of the public eye. Very seldom will you find such a point on the market. At least, not an ancient, authentic point of any quality. You may see an occasional broken or partial point. And sometimes, if a collector has had such a good Paleo-Indian point certified and authenticated,

he may be tempted to sell it, but this would be unusual. I find it difficult to imagine that even an artifact dealer, whose business has long been buying and selling these items, would ever want to sell a high quality Clovis point or Cumberland point, for example, without suggesting a substantial price. I say this to caution you and encourage you to carefully consider claims of age, culture and authenticity which you will hear from people who are collectors and/or sellers of possibly ancient artifacts.

These Black Rock Desert arrowheads are made of basalt. My source's eBay ID is: Jeanine292.

Broken Bases ... A Basis For Understanding?

As anyone who has searched for stone relics in farm land or construction sites or worked on an archaeological site can tell you, most of the time we find broken stone tools or weapons.

This is to be expected, since most of what we find is used, discarded tools which were no longer useful. Otherwise, they would have continued in use.

To find an unused point or tool in its originally manufactured condition is rare. Obviously, we like to find new or unused tools and hunting weapons; they are both beautiful and exciting to hold and examine.

So, then the question becomes what can we learn from these working tools and hunting weapons which had reached the end of their useful life?

From a scientific point of view, a used tool will tell more about its purpose and effectiveness than will an unused. An extremely close examination of the edge wear can give an idea of the material which was processed, cut, scraped, sliced, etc., with the tool. Soft materials like meat wear on the edge of a tool differently from wood or bone or even grass and soft plants. These patterns tell archaeologists what materials were being utilized by the people.

On a more elementary level, we can learn about the stone being

used for tools, about the size of the handles being used to hold the stone knife or blade. We can learn the type and size of shafts used to hold spear and lance points. We can see the

diameter of dart and arrow shafts by the width of the stone tang made for that weapon. We can also deduce the size of the flint knapping tools by the size of the flaking and notches.



These broken flint and chert weapons and tools were found by the author in Texas about 1990. They are shown actual size. The white spear point was found in a midden near Abilene. The black flint knife and the brown flint drill were found along a stream in Salado, north of Austin. The impact-damaged dart point of brown flint was found near San Antonio. The drill is a recycled Pedernales spear point or knife from the middle Archaic period. The black knife is possibly a Paleo period blade, and exhibits good collateral pressure flaking, and a typical form for the period. The white spear point is a Castroville or Marcus style Archaic period point, used for buffalo hunting in the Texas plains. They were made to mount on shafts 5/8" to 3/4" in diameter. All shown actual size.



These broken obsidian weapons and tools were found by the author or members of his family in eastern Oregon, near Fort Rock, in the 1960's. They are shown actual size. The drill on the left is a recycled dart point. The Gatecliff dart point or knife exhibits excellent pressure flaking and the type's typical contracting base. These were usually glued and inserted into a tubular hollow handle, like a rib or other bone or hollowed out stick or cane. The Northern side notch dart point shows impact damage to the tip, as does the Elko corner notch dart point beside it. We can say they are dart points, since most arrowheads in this region have much narrower tangs in keeping with the small diameter of the arrow shafts. These two points were mounted on dart shafts 3/8" to 1/2" in diameter.

The World Wide Web Brings The Whole Ancient World To You

The "Aterian" stone tool style or industry from North Africa is named for the first or "type" site where these distinctive hunting weapons and food processing tools were described: Bir el-Ater in Algeria.

Originally thought to date to the period from 40,000 to 20,000 before the present; more recent technologies have been used to re-examine the stone tools and have pushed back the time horizon for this technology of stone tool making to a much older range: from 85,000 to 40,000 years of age.

The manufacturing process for these tools is derived from the earlier "Mousterian" methods for working stone, using prepared and shaped cores from which were struck off large flakes which were then often unifacially trimmed into the desired tool shapes.

This older stone working process was long used by archaic types of humans, such as Neanderthals and Heidelbergensis. However, all of the human remains associated with "Aterian" tools and sites have been "early modern" humans. They continued with the same basic stone working processes, but with a major conceptual difference. The "Aterian" style tools are the first to have clearly been designed and manufactured to be mounted on handles, with the projectile points and the scrapers having distinctive prepared tangs.

The "Aterian" culture ranged all across North Africa, from Morocco in the west and east to the Kharga Oasis in Egypt.



This Middle Paleolithic (Middle Stone Age) "Aterian" projectile point (1-5/8" long x 1-1/8" wide) from North Africa is from 85,000 to 40,000 years of age, dating from a time when the Sahara Desert region was rich in grasslands, teeming with wild herds, populated by a widespread early modern hunter-gatherer population, which was still using tool manufacturing processes which were long utilized by archaic human populations such as the Neanderthal culture in North Africa and Europe. These were the earliest tanged tools and weapons, made specifically to be attached to handles and shafts. The other two tools below, were more likely used as scraping and processing tools since they do not have pointed ends, instead they are almost round at the working edge opposite the tang. Obtained from eBay seller "riverside0100", whose eBay Store is John's Relics and More.



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Artifact Authentication Services & Certificates Of Authenticity



Authentication and evaluation services for artifacts from all over the world are available from a number of highly respected sources.

Some offer these services for regional items, since they specialize in Western, or South Western, or South Eastern, or North Central or North Eastern artifact types.

And most of the authenticators have web sites. Read up on their services, learn about their specialties, obtain pricing and timing information, and determine how to send items for authentication and evaluation.

Here are some well known and respected authenticators:

Dwain Rogers
Texas Flint Authentication
4102 Birch Avenue
Temple
Texas 76502
Telephone: 1-254-791-5520

Jeff Baker
Baker Authentication
www.BakerCOA.com
P.O. Box 772
Paragould, Arkansas 72451
Telephone: 1-870-239-9722

Bill Jackson
Jackson Galleries
www.JacksonGalleries.com
P.O. Box 1005
Mount Sterling
Kentucky 40353
Telephone: 1-800-466-3836
Fax: 1-859-499-0160

Tom Davis
Davis Artifacts, Inc.
www.TomDavisArtifacts.com
P.O. Box 676
Stanton
Kentucky 40380
Telephone: 1-606-663-2741

Ben Stermer
Western Typology
www.WesternTypology.com
44207 W McClelland Dr.
Maricopa, Arizona 85238
email: BSte122241@aol.com

Jeb Taylor
Jeb Taylor Artifacts
P.O. Box 882
Buffalo
Wyoming 82834
Telephone: 1-307-737-2347

Ken Partain
www.kensrelics.com
7044 Market Street
Dover, Arkansas 72837
Telephone: 1-479-331-3486

Old Stone Age
Handaxe (Paleolithic),
used by h. erectus, age
approx. 200,000* years.

* Correction: h. erectus lived
more like 0.75 to 1.5 million
years ago, so if this stone
handaxe is only about 200,000
years old, it was used by early h.
sapiens or h. sapiens
neandertalis.

<http://www.Stormbroek.com>

A European artifact gallery,
which offers quality antiquities
from all historic eras, and all
areas around the world.
eBay Store: Stormbroek

Scottsbluff Spear
Point, late Paleo, early
Archaic period, age
8,000 to 10,000 years.



www.SWArkArtifacts.com

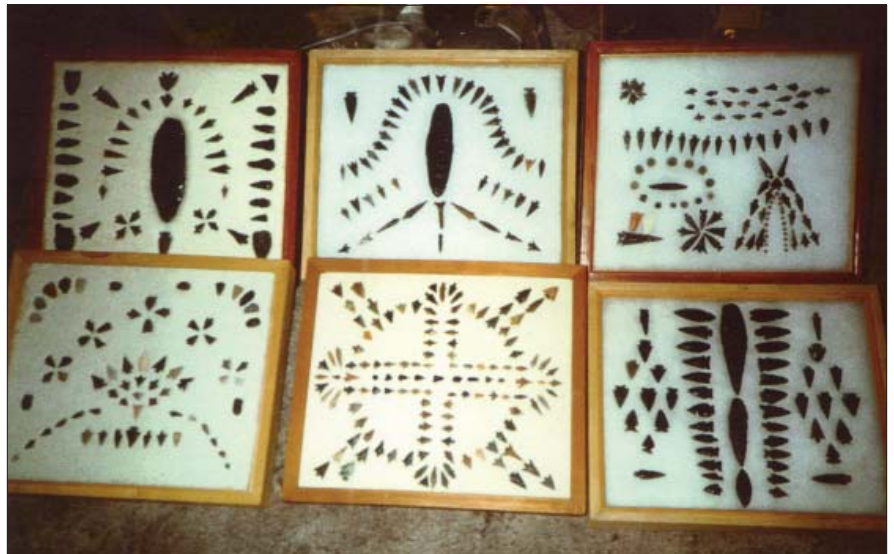
Dealer located in Arkansas, features
authentic artifacts from the south/
central United States, many with
Certificates of Authenticity.
eBay Store: SWArkArtifacts

A Collector's Collector

How many ways can arrowheads and other points be arranged in shadow boxes? Let us count the ways: and these displays from Vernon Imel's outstanding Oregon artifact collection can be our guide.



Arrowheads, spearpoints and knife blades arranged in creative motifs and classic native layouts: sunbursts, flocks of geese, bows & arrows, teepees & other home designs, etc. Collected by the late Vernon Imel, of eastern Oregon. He surface collected all over Oregon, along the Columbia River and across the Great Basin during the 1940's and 1950's. His family made this collection available to the Grande Ronde Tribal Council after Mr. Imel's passing. The author has been privileged to obtain a fair number of points from Mr. Imel's vast collection, from Mr. Jess Anders of Sisters, OR.



Discover An Arrowhead In Your Garden And You'll Never Look At Bare Dirt The Same Way Again Forever!

I know I sure don't. Not since I found an agate arrowhead when I was digging a new garden plot on my family's land in Oregon.

That spring I was just 13 years old. I still have that arrowhead. And several others which I found over the next few years, in our other gardens, in our plowed fields, on old paths and dirt driveways up in the forested hills around our place, out in the fields where I was moving irrigation pipes, etc., etc.

I never missed a chance to keep an eye on the open spaces and freshly disturbed soil, just to see what I could find. And over the years, my close observation has been rewarded many times, in many places.

Just like thousands of other kids all over the country, I was intrigued and fascinated by these arrowheads, the hunting weapons left behind over hundreds and thousands of years of use by the people who lived here before us.

Maybe you are doing the same thing today. Perhaps you have the same questions about those arrowheads and other things which you find in the soil around your home.

That's why I put together this web page, to help kids and parents understand what they are finding, to learn about these arrowheads and other stone tools made by the ancient inhabitants of our lands.

Sometimes those people were our ancestors, and sometimes they have been gone so long that no one knows who might be descended from them. But we always want to know about them, to understand their lives, and to study the evidence of their time here, which we find all around us.

To accomplish these things we are putting together an on-going electronic monthly newsletter designed to illustrate and explain the tools and weapons which we find in all corners of this big land. We call it "Arrowhead Collecting On The Web". And we invite you to ask for it, so you can read it, every month.

"Arrowhead Collecting On The Web" will explore all the questions we have about the people who made them, where they lived, how we find their stone tools, how they made these weapons and tools, how old they are, how we can know the age of these tools, and many more.

We will have photographs of arrowheads and of collections so you can see how some people display the points they find. Another photo story might follow an expert collector to see what is found and where.

We will also talk about the rules of looking for arrowheads, the restrictions which some states and government laws place on where we can look and how we can look. Every different part of the country has different rules, so these rules and legal guidelines will be explored, based on the various regions or states across the country.

Another aspect of the newsletter each month will be some stories about sharing or trading with other collectors across the country. This way we can explore the different types of arrowheads which are found in various regions. Not only are there distinctive styles from different areas, but there were very clearly different ways of making arrowheads and other hunting weapons during the many vast eras or periods of time which have gone by during the long history of human use of this land.



Arrowhead Collecting On The Web™