Back To The Future: Take A Look At The Behind-The-Scenes Work To Create A Museum Display Worthy Of An Old-Time Texas Collector’s Artifact Assembly In Weatherford, Texas.

Thank you for subscribing to our newsletter, “Arrowhead Collecting On The Web”.

I hope you enjoyed the recent edition, Volume II, Number 5, of our digital e-magazine, the May, 2010 issue.

“Arrowhead Collecting On The Web” provides an on-going series of articles and graphic presentations of information related to the many different aspects of discovering and learning about artifacts of previous cultures found today.

Now with over 900 readers across North America, plus in South America, Africa, Europe, Australia and Asia, we are moving forward into our second calendar year, Volume II. This new June 2010 edition addresses the following topics, among others:

• Learn how ice patches in the Arctic of Canada are melting and revealing ancient tools and weapons protected for ages in the frozen ice (see pages 4-5).

• If you are enjoying the long-time Earth’s Children® series of books by Jean Auel, you will be pleased to read the announcement of the sixth and final book in the series. The Land of Painted Caves will be published in March 2011. The concluding sagas of Ayla and Jondalar and all the other characters in these novels of prehistoric times are eagerly awaited by literary, history and archaeology fans around the world (see pages 5-6).

• We visit the Doss Heritage and Cultural Center in Weatherford, to see the preparations for the exhibit of L. M. Abbott’s Texas Artifacts Collection, with at least 132 identified Texas point types (see pages 7-10).

• Our continuing series of articles about the stone resources used in North America explores the use of hematite, an iron ore, for several different types of tools and weapons. In the Old World hematite was primarily used as a source for colors and adornment, in marked contrast to the use of hematite for tools in the New World (see page 11).

Read, learn, find, enjoy. And pass it all along to your family and friends.
Our editorial objective is to help our readers become long-term, even serious collectors of arrowheads, over the years to come. Here are some of the things 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 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 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 understand that some people still try to sell unsuspecting collectors items which may or may not be what the items are 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

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.StoneBreaker-FSC.net

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www.ArrowheadCollectingOnTheWeb.com
F. Scott Crawford, Carrollton, Texas
Ancient Tools Revealed By Melting Arctic Ice Patches In Canada.

Warming temperatures are melting patches of ice that have been in place for thousands of years in the mountains of the Canadian High Arctic and in turn revealing a treasure trove of ancient hunting tools. Ice patches result from layers of annual snow that, until recently, remained frozen all year. As Earth’s temperature has warmed in recent decades due to the accumulation of heat-trapping greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, some of the ice patches have begun to melt away, sometimes revealing ancient artifacts to the surprise of archaeologists.

“We’re just like children opening Christmas presents. I kind of pinch myself,” said Tom Andrews, an archaeologist with the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre in Yellowknife, Northern Territories, Canada, and lead researcher on the International Polar Year Ice Patch Study.

Ice patch archaeology is a recent phenomenon that began in Yukon. In 1997, sheep hunters discovered a 4,300-year-old dart shaft in caribou dung that had become exposed as the ice receded. Scientists who investigated the site found layers of caribou dung buried between annual deposits of ice. They also discovered a repository of well-preserved artifacts.

Andrews first became aware of the importance of ice patches when word about the Yukon find started leaking out. “We began wondering if we had the same phenomenon here,” Andrews said. In 2000, he cobbled together funds to buy satellite imagery of specific areas in the Mackenzie Mountains, which form part of the border between the Yukon and the Northwest Territories, and began to examine ice patches in the region.

Five years later, he had raised enough money to support a four-hour helicopter ride to investigate two ice patches. The trip proved fruitful.

“Lo and behold, we found a willow bow,” Andrews said. That discovery allowed Andrews and his team to get more funds that the team then used to explore eight ice patches in four years. The results have been extraordinary: Andrews and his team (including members of the indigenous Shutaot’ine or Mountain Dene) have found 2,400-year-old spear throwing tools, a 1,000-year-old ground squirrel snare, and bows and arrows dating back 850 years.

“The implements are truly amazing. There are wooden arrows and dart shafts so fine you can’t believe someone sat down with a stone and made them,” Andrews said. Biologists involved in the project are examining dung in the area for plant remains, insect parts, pollen and caribou parasites. Others are studying DNA evidence to track the lineage and migration patterns of caribou. The dung and artifacts can be found at these spots because for millennia, caribou seeking relief from summer heat and insects have made their way to ice patches where they bed down until cooler temperatures prevail. Hunters noticed caribou were, in effect, marooned on these ice islands and took advantage.

“I’m never surprised at the brilliance of ancient hunters anymore. I feel stupid that we didn’t find this sooner,” Andrews said. Andrews is concerned about retrieving more artifacts, because his funds have run out and two of the eight ice patches have already disappeared. “We realize that the ice patches are continuing to melt, and we have an ethical obligation to collect these artifacts as they are exposed,” Andrews said.

If left on the ground, exposed artifacts would be trampled by caribou or dissolved by the acidic soils. “In a year or two the artifacts would be gone.”

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Alpine “Ice Patch” Archaeology Continues In Yukon, Canada.

Large diameter shafts of throwing darts, slotted for insertion of stone points. Top to bottom, the radiocarbon dates of these darts: 1640, 4440, 3220 and 3900 B.P.

Four dart ends that show one of the diagnostic attributes of dart technology: the presence of a dimple at the proximal end. The hook on the throwing board (atlatl) fit into this depression in the base of the dart. L-R radiocarbon dates: 4700, 3220, 3580 and 5240 B.P.

A bevelled foreshaft for a throwing dart. The hafted side-notched stone point is inserted into a slot in the end of the piece and held in place by multistrand, untwisted sinew. The artifact is dated to 4480 years B.P. (before present). The photos on this page were published in the article “Investigations of Alpine Ice Patches”, in Arctic in 2004, by The Arctic Institute of North America.

Left, heritage officer Kristina Kane points to an arrow discovered on an ice patch in the Yukon Territory in 2005. Above, part of the “Forty Mile” herd crossing the Yukon River about 1900. Below, several throwing dart stone points of different styles, from the Ice Patches in 2005.
Here's Great News For Fans Of Ayla & Jondalar, The Clan & All The Other Wonderful Characters In Jean M. Auel's Earth's Children® Series Of Novels About Life In Prehistoric Times.

The Land of Painted Caves, Jean M. Auel's Sixth and Final Book in the Earth's Children® Series, to Be Published Worldwide on March 29, 2011

(May 27, 2010—New York, NY)

Jean M. Auel, whose novels about prehistoric life have won acclaim for their inspired storytelling, meticulous attention to detail, and historic accuracy, has written the highly anticipated sixth and final book in the mega-bestselling Earth's Children® series.

Titled The Land of Painted Caves, the book will be published in the United States on March 29, 2011, in both hardcover and eBook formats by Crown Publishers, an imprint of the Crown Publishing Group, a division of Random House, Inc. The book will be simultaneously published worldwide, including in the U.K., Germany, France, Holland, Spain, Italy, Serbia, Croatia, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, and Japan. A worldwide announcement was made today.

Bantam Books, which holds the rights to all of Auel's paperback backlist, will publish eBook versions of each of the previous five classic books in the Earth's Children® series in advance of the international release of The Land of Painted Caves. Bantam will also publish a paperback edition of the new book in 2012.

Auel's Earth's Children® is one of the most popular and celebrated book series of all time, with worldwide sales of more than 45 million copies, including nearly 22 million copies in the United States alone. The series has consistently made publishing history, beginning with the groundbreaking first novel, The Clan of the Cave Bear (1980), and continuing with The Valley of Horses (1982); The Mammoth Hunters (1985), which was the first hardcover novel to achieve a first printing of more than a million copies; The Plains of Passage (1990); and The Shelters of Stone (2002), which debuted at #1 on sixteen international bestseller lists.

The Land of Painted Caves continues the story of Ayla, her mate Jondalar, and their little daughter, Jonayla, taking readers on a journey of discovery and adventure as Ayla struggles to find a balance between her duties as a new mother and her training to become a Zelandoni—one of the Ninth Cave community's spiritual leaders and healers. Once again, Jean Auel combines her brilliant narrative skills and appealing characters with a remarkable recreation of the way life was lived thousands of years ago, rendering the terrain, dwelling places, longings, beliefs, creativity, and daily lives of Ice Age Europeans as real to the reader as today's news. Auel's editor for the book is her longtime editor Betty Prashker.

Said Maya Mavjee, president and publisher of the Crown Publishing Group, "The Land of Painted Caves is a brilliant achievement by one of the world's most beloved authors. Jean M. Auel's millions of fans, who have been eagerly awaiting the next installment of the epic story of Ayla and Jondalar, will not be disappointed by this stirring and satisfying finale."

Auel's longtime agent Jean Naggar says: "Once again, the launch of this latest book in Jean Auel's unique series promises to be an international extravaganza. Working with this extraordinary author and series from its beginnings has been a great personal and professional pleasure. The Land of Painted Caves is a triumph and a wonderful read."

An ancient wall painting of a targeted horse, showing darts flying toward the horse, portrayed on the wall of Lascaux Cave in France, dated to some 15,000 years ago. Far older paintings have been found in the 1990's in southern France, dating to over 30,000 years ago (additional photos p. 5).
The oldest paintings in the world exhibit amazing quality and skill. Their location, Chauvet Cave, which was discovered in 1994 in southern France, dated to 31,000 years ago, immediately overturned many long-standing theories about the development of art in the ancient world. You can read more about the Chauvet Cave artwork at http://www.culture.gouv.fr/culture/arcnat/chauvet/en/

Direct dates obtained in 1995 have added an unexpected dimension to the discovery. Three samples taken from charcoal drawings of two rhinoceroses and one bison have yielded dates between 30,340 and 32,410 BP (before present). Considering the statistical margins of error, this means that the paintings were made at the very ancient date of approximately 31,000 years ago, within an interval of 1,300 years. The dating of a torch mark (26,120 ± 400) superimposed on a calcite layer that covers a drawing proves that at least some of the representations were created at very early dates.
The Doss Heritage And Cultural Center In Weatherford, Texas, Prepares A Permanent Museum Exhibition For An Old-Time Collector From Athens, Texas ... Here’s The Inside Story.

L. M. Abbott, who lived in Athens, Texas, began hunting artifacts with his brother, Fred, as a youngster in east Texas. After he retired, he became a very active and successful collector.

At this time, the Doss Heritage and Cultural Center in Weatherford, Texas, is preparing an exhibition of a large portion of his collection. He specialized in Central Texas artifacts. More than 132 types of Texas arrow points, knife blades, spear points, dart points and other artifacts are identified in the materials being prepared for the exhibit in Parker County.

Once the exhibit is completed, ACOTW will publish an additional notice, so readers who are interested may enjoy the exhibit.

L. M. Abbott, late of Athens, Texas, was a well-known and respected collector who was featured in “Who’s Who In Indian Relics, No. 8”. The book showed Mr. Abbott in his artifact room in his Athens home, along with numerous frames of artifacts from his central Texas collection.

Here is a close-up view of one of Mr. Abbott’s original frames of central Texas artifacts. The points and blades in this frame were found by Cecil R. Harris in Williamson and Bell Counties.

(...continues on p. 8)
Afton dart points. Middle Archaic to early Woodland periods, 5000 to 2000 years B.P.

Castroville dart points. Late Archaic to Woodland periods, 4000 to 1500 years B.P.

Perdiz arrow points. Mississippian period, 1000 to 500 years B.P. (Before Present).

Catahoula arrow points. Mississippian period, 800 to 400 years B.P.

Marvin Glasgow has been sorting and identifying L. M. Abbott’s collection, with over 132 Texas point types labelled to assist the exhibit designers.

(...continues on p. 9)
The L. M. Abbott collection has projectile points and blades ranging from an obsidian Harrell arrowhead less than 1/2" long to this Trade Blank about 12" long.

A Covington Biface, a large lanceolate blade with a broad, rounded base, late Archaic period, 4000 to 3000 B.P.

Clovis spear and dart points. Paleo-Indian Period, 11,500 to 10,600 years B.P.

(...continues on p. 10)
This Frio point from the L. M. Abbott collection features unusually fine serrations along the edges of the projectile point, all remarkably well preserved, in addition to the deadly needle tip of this dart point. Frio points date to the middle Archaic to the Woodland period in Texas and Oklahoma; they were in use from about 5,000 years to 1,500 years before the present.

Angostura spear and dart points. Early Archaic period, 8800 to 7500 years B.P.

Pedernales spear and dart points. Middle Archaic to Woodland periods, 6000 to 2000 years B.P.

Dalton spear and dart points. Early Archaic period, 10,000 to 9200 years B.P.

Scottsbluff spear and dart points. Early Archaic period, 10,000 to 8000 years B.P.
Hematite Used By Native Americans ... In Art, Tools, Weapons ... This Iron Ore Played An Important Role In Ancient Cultures.

I came across an interesting reprint of a small book by Warren K. Moorehead, originally printed in 1912 by The Andover Press, in Andover, Massachusetts, entitled: Hematite Implements of the United States. He was concerned with classifying and studying objects made from hematite in North America.

“Whether” early man “made implements or ornaments of the heavier and harder hematite in foreign countries, as he did in America, is a question I will leave to the consideration of students more familiar with the European field. In our own country the hematite was not only made use of for decorative purposes, but it served for a multitude of implements and weapons and a few ornaments and game stones.”

Mr. Moorehead divides hematite implements into 6 major classifications: Celts, Grooved Axes, Plummets, Paint Stones & Cones, Ornaments and Projectile Points.

St. Louis, Missouri, seems to be at the heart of the region where hematite objects were made in significant numbers. Mr. Moorehead corresponded at length with Dr. H. M. Whelpley of St. Louis, about his special collection and study of these tools, from a period of thirty years: “These objects ... are found on the surface through cultivation of the soil. Occasionally they are washed out by the action of streams... Hematite pieces have been found around the mounds but none with burials in the mounds... As far as I have been able to observe or learn, the Indians never mined hematite for use in making artifacts. They picked up pieces of suitable size and shape and worked each piece down to a single article for use. I do not think the Indians very often broke large pieces of hematite and made several things out of the small pieces. They usually found a piece of the right size to work it down to the finished objects, showing the stages in making grooved axes, plummets, cones, celts, etc. The pieces of hematite found on the surface in Missouri, no doubt, were as easily worked as any that could be quarried or mined.”
May 26, 2010
Last week my granddaughter found an arrowhead in a stream bed in Killeen, Texas. She is 5 years old and really interested about Indians & arrowheads. We got on the web and found many similar looking in rock type, size and appearance. It matches the Nolan arrowhead exactly. Do you folks have any information on this type of arrowhead? Thank you.
J.D. for Kallee Taylor Wade, Killeen, Texas

PS. She is also signed up on your e-mail newsletter.

May 30, 2010
Hi J.D. This Nolan dart point, found near San Antonio, illustrates the key diagnostic detail: the beveled edges of the base are flaked to shape from just one side; the piece is turned over and then the second side edge of the base is beveled in the same direction. They were used from about 6,000 to 4,000 years ago, in the “middle Archaic” period, in Texas and Oklahoma. Good luck to Kallee and you.
Scott

June 2, 2010
Scott,
Just became a subscriber. Thank you so much for the time, you have put into these beautiful articles!
What have you heard about arrowhead hunting in Utah?
I am having a tuff time finding anything about Utah artifacts. Thanks!
Kris
Riverton, Utah

June 3, 2010
Hi Kris,
That is a good question. I have heard many stories about finding ancient artifacts in Utah, and have been able to obtain some excellent examples of Utah specimens, from collectors whom I know who found them in various regions of the state. Personally, I have driven through some amazing areas in Utah. But, I have not myself ever had the opportunity to be in an area of the state where I could effectively look for ancient relics. Mostly, that will need to be on private land, with permission from the owners, since public land, whether state or US, like parks or Bureau of Land Management, or even Indian Reservations, is not where you want to be collecting arrowheads. I would suggest going on-line to find out about looking for rocks and minerals, gems and such, or fossils, and even arrowheads, in Utah. There you can probably find Gem societies or Rockhound groups and such which can provide information about local resources across the state. Many have maps and directions to areas where a person can participate in activities of that nature. In addition, since so much of Utah is desert or mountainous, one of the things which can generally guide you to areas where ancient peoples lived is to follow sources of water, like rivers and springs. Also, sheltered areas in canyon lands or in the mountains, along the beds where water flowed, were likely to have wild animals around, which were hunted. So, places with conditions like this, were likely inhabited. Always remember, in Utah, as in most states, archaeological sites are protected.
Scott
Even though this spot is in Zion National Park, it could be a good example of a sheltered, watered site in the Utah mountains or canyonlands where we could expect that ancient people would have lived. If it was on private land, and you had permission to look for artifacts from the landowner, this would be a great place to explore, perhaps to find a few surface examples of ancient tools or weapons. However, even if it was on private land, without the appropriate archaeological permits, no digging or disturbing of the land or of any archaeological features is allowed.
May 4, 2010
Scott,
I found a point in the 50’s near Kennedale, Texas, in Tarrant County near Village Creek. I was wondering if I sent you a picture of it you could tell me the name of the point and what tribe made it. It really is a nice point.
Ken Daugherty
May 5, 2010
Hi Kenneth. Sure, send along a photo and I’ll see what it looks like. Looking forward to seeing it.
Scott
May 12, 2010
Scott,
Here is the picture I asked you to look at. I also sent a picture of a blade I bought in Georgetown, Texas, at the Interstate Caverns in the late 70’s. The Caverns had a collection of 5 or 6 blades they were selling. I only bought one. It seems to be any original artifact, they thought that they were used in ceremonies. Do you have any input on this also. Thanks for your time.
Ken Daugherty
May 31, 2010
Ken,
That is a nice Archaic dart point, from over near Kennedale. It is probably a “Pedernales” type point, based on the general size and in particular, the split (bifurcated), parallel sided base. This style is widespread throughout much of Texas, and was used from about 6,000 to 2,000 years ago, from the Archaic period into the Woodland period. Many have a very sharp tip and sharp, barbed corners, but not all. These were used on atlatl darts and spears to take buffalo and deer.
As for the 8” blade from Georgetown; this is what is known as a “Gray Ghost”. These were made over a period of several decades after World War II by Bryan Reinhardt, who lived in south Texas. He made thousands of knives and spear points of exotic shapes and styles, and sold them through tourist attractions for many years. There has actually grown to be a rather active interest in collecting Reinhardt’s work in recent years. However, it is not an ancient piece.
Scott
May 26, 2010
I found an arrowhead which looks like moon stone, with edges starting to turn reddish. It’s 3 inches long, like a double edged knife, about 1 inch wide. I found it in the Mojave Desert in Barstow, California, in the dry river bottom.
Sandra Easterly
May 26, 2010
Hi Sandra,
That moon stone point sounds like a nice artifact addition for someone’s collection.
Sandra would like to sell this point. Readers who might be interested? Please contact Sandra Easterly at sandreaeasterly@yahoo.com.
Scott
May 1, 2010
In my 64 years I’ve made many contributions to the collecting world in Native American relics and Civil War relics via lectures and publications. Recently a project of mine to restore a historic cemetery was featured on the today show….so I hardly run away from issues. But I’m increasingly reticent to join discussions of the “is it genuine or not?” genre. Perhaps it’s just my age - dunno. There is little to be gained by me trying to convince a collector irrespective of how he or she came about their collection that it contains dubious pieces. If I’m directly asked I’ll be honest with my opinion but I really don’t desire to inform somebody that daddy or grandfather acquired some fakes, impositions or re-chips. I have no idea how if I were in your position I would handle the issue - particularly given the huge amount of bad material that is in collections. I may have over reacted to the fish hooks but eagle effigies and fish hooks are complete impositions for which no argument of authenticity can logically be presented. I realized after joining your newsletter that you are oriented toward beginning collectors. I do believe that an attractive effort such as yours can serve the community well; however, once you accept photos and comments from readers along with it comes the conundrum of how to respond to the bad stuff. My interests are primarily focused on paleo and transitional tools and edge use analysis of them. I trust I haven’t offended you but the unsubscribe option did ask for comments.

Sent from my iPod
Byron M.

May 1, 2010
Hello Byron,
Thanks very much for your response. I do not take offense at your comments, and appreciate your concern about “dubious pieces” in people’s collections. Indeed, there are many, and if the truth were known, almost every collection can be found to have either/or fake, modified, re-chipped, materials. Personally, I have no interest in “restored” pieces. To my mind, there is no way anyone can restore a partial tool to anything approaching its original condition, since there is nothing but someone’s imagination guiding the effort. I would rather enjoy the ancient tool or weapon in the exact condition in which it was found, rather than any attempt at rebuilding it. I am absolutely certain that some of the pieces in my own collection are probably modern recreations/ reproductions of ancient weapons or tools. Most of those modern made pieces can be recognized, if you know what to look for. In my case, I learned to make arrowheads as a teenager, and to this day, I turn 60 in a few days, I enjoy flint knapping. In fact, I spent 5 hours today teaching a gentleman who is just learning how to make stone arrowheads so that he can hunt with them on his lease here in Texas. Being able to make many types of points from many different cultures helps me to recognize the modern-made points which I come across, and it also helps me appreciate the true skills of the ancient knappers when I see old tools and weapons. That such stone decorative items as eagles, thunderbirds, fish hooks, etc., get made these days is indisputable. One of the reasons I put out my e-magazine is to help the readers learn to recognize the difference between ancient and modern made implements. That is always a challenge, to find ways to illustrate those concepts. Again, I appreciate your concerns and comments, and hope you will choose to rejoin the subscriber list to the emagazine, where your comments and ideas will indeed be helpful to the new collectors. Those ideas will always be of use to the old time collectors among our readers, as well.

Sincerely,
F. Scott Crawford

Publisher’s e-mail address: fscottcrawford@arrowheadcollectingontheweb.com
Collecting is an exciting activity, and enthusiasm is good, yet caution is also necessary to protect your long term interests plus your satisfaction and peace of mind as they are dependent upon careful, educated decisions.

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 with whom you speak will have a story of how he bought a point from someone whom he thought trustworthy, only to find out later that the point was unknowingly or even deliberately sold as authentic, when in reality it was a modern copy or reproduction point.

In addition, when you are looking at possible “Paleo-Indian” artifacts, it would be well to keep in mind that in most parts of the country, they are very rare. I know life-long students of archaeology who have worked all over the country are discovered in scientific excavations, they are celebrated and then carefully cataloged for future study and reference. If they are found on private land, these points and tools are most often preserved and put away, out of public view. And sometimes, if a collector has a good Paleo-Indian point which has been certified and authenticated, he might be tempted to sell it, but this would be quite unusual.

No artifact dealer would ever want to sell a high quality Folsom, Clovis or Cumberland point, for example, without suggesting a substantial price.

I say this to caution you and to encourage you to carefully consider claims of age, culture and authenticity which you will hear from collectors and/or sellers of possibly ancient artifacts.

I have included another article which discusses authenticators and gives contact information for several whom I consider top quality and reliable as artifact evaluators.

I will keep that information available in every edition of the newsletter, so that readers can avail themselves of the authentication resources which are available today.
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

**Sam Cox**
www.SamCoxArtifacts.com
968 Floyd Drive
Lexington, Kentucky 40505
Telephone: 1-859-351-5675

You can use a jeweler’s Lupe 8X magnifier, just to begin the high enlargement examination of an artifact, to look for edge wear and tool marks.

**Old Stone Age Handaxe (Paleolithic), age 200,000+/- years.**

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.**
eBay store: SWArkArtifacts
eBay ID: “razrbk”

Dealer located in Arkansas, features authentic artifacts from the south/central United States, many with Certificates of Authenticity.
eBay Store: SWArkArtifacts
Providing Precision-Crafted Projectile Points Since Before The Dawn Of Civilization.

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