From The Early Archaic, At Least 7,000 B.P., Two “Cascade” Points From An Ancient “Cache”.

Regional Features & On-Going Artifact Adventure Reports
- Mike Lundmark ...
- Jennifer Peterson ...
- Charles & Barbara Carmichael ...
- William Sidmore ...
- Randall McNiece ...
- Kenny Gibson ...
- Kevin O’Hara ...
- Tom Holck ...
- Dr. Vittorio Brizzi ...
- Javier Larramendy ...
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“What’s New This Month?”
Check out two more ancient cache blades from John Byrd’s “Big Sky Enterprises”, an artifact collector’s connection for High Plains & Western artifacts. (p. 3-4)

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Looking For Artifact Authenticators & Evaluators?
Contact Information For Expert Consultants, Your Region. (p. 15)

FLINT KNAPPING 20.12 Correspondence Course
The first two lessons are free when you subscribe today to this popular 24-lesson correspondence course for new & intermediate students of flint knapping: www.StoneBreaker-FSC.net/FLINT_KNAPPING_20-12.html

Arrowhead Collecting Books & Special Reports … Amazon, etc. Artifact types, cultural affiliations, regional examples, etc. (p. 14)

From A Cache Of “Cascade” Dart & Spear Points, Made Of Obsidian “Core Blades”.

2 Out Of 2,130 “Cascade” Points Found In A “Cache” Along Paulina Creek In 1961.
March, 2015

Probably “the largest single “cache” of projectile points ever found in North America was discovered by the Dietz family on private property along Paulina Creek in central Oregon.” That’s how John Byrd described the Dewey Dietz Paulina Creek Cache in the write-up for an auction of some of the artifacts in 2008. “With over 2,300 points, it was a massive collection that was divided three ways among the family. Twenty years ago” he wrote, “I purchased two thirds of this collection and sold it in small groups in custom redwood cases.” More information and photographs of the Dewey Dietz Paulina Creek Cache starts on p.3. (p. 3-6)

28 Obsidian “Preforms” From An Ancient “Cache” Found Many Years Ago Along The Shore Of A Remote Lake In Eastern Oregon.
A potentially labor saving activity often performed by ancient “flint knappers” was to prepare several “preforms” or “blanks” from which tools and hunting weapons could be made and then to store them in anticipation of completing the finishing work at some time in the future, when they were needed. This “cache” of preforms was never retrieved. (p. 7-12, 15)
I found this wickedly sharp, ancient arrowhead on the world wide web, although it was originally found in Siskiyou County in northern California, in 2008, by Jennifer Peterson.

I purchased it from Jennifer, in an auction on eBay in November 2009. When Jennifer found this expertly made, finely serrated gray obsidian “Gunther” style arrowhead, it was in the place where it was last used, abandoned or stored away and forgotten.

Now, any collector can tell you that there are times when you will want to wander the fields and streams yourself. So, from May 2009 until December 2012, in the pages of “ACOTW ~ Arrowhead Collecting On The Web”, we provided articles and photographs to show you how to effectively look for and find ancient arrow points and other stone tools for your collection.

We shared stories from readers across America who wrote about and shared photographs of their finds. You can still enjoy every single article from each of the monthly editions of “ACOTW ~ Arrowhead Collecting On The Web” by visiting the complete archive or purchasing the “Annual Bound Collector’s Edition” for each year from 2009, 2010, 2011 and, soon, 2012. (See page 14 to order.)

If you wish to contribute photographs and stories about your discoveries and favorite artifacts in your collection through our new, re-formatted web site and monthly printed newsletter, you are always welcome to email digital images and comments about your adventures. The email address to use is: Forum@Arrowheads2013.com

About The Publisher

From the early 1960’s when I was 13 or 14 in the forested foothills of western Oregon’s Willamette Valley and found my first arrowhead, an obsidian “bird point”, in a field my dad 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 greatly enjoyed looking at their display of those arrowheads.

So, to find some points of our own, on the family land there in Linn County, 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 would always keep an eye out for bits and pieces of worked stone, tools and points, to add to our growing artifact collection.

Today, I still keep a watch 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 are interested in “ARROWHEAD Collecting On The Web”.

F. Scott Crawford

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 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 to learn more about the craft and see a variety of modern made, artifact reproductions in the ancient styles: www.StoneBreaker-FSC.net

FSC

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Here is a frame with several of the “Cascade” style blades found in the Dewey Dietz Family’s “Paulina Creek Cache”, back in 1961. The inset photo in the frame shows the entire group of blades ... 2,130 altogether. Found on private property. Almost all of them were obsidian. Many were made in a unifacial style ... which means that the flat surface of the original blade was retained, with flaking on the ridged face only or mostly. This frame was offered in 2012 by The Artifact Company, from Kentucky.
I asked John Byrd about the Dietz Cache point (above, right) offered in his March Catalog, from Big Sky Enterprises. March 14, 2015, John,
Tell me about that Paulina Creek Cache point, #33, found by the Dietz family.
I have seen several from this cache at a museum near Bend.... Scott
(He wrote back...)
March 14:
About 25 years ago I purchased 2/3rds of the cache from Dewey Dietz and his parents. Of over 2100 points only one was not obsidian. All were of the basic Cascade type and way over half were rather unifacial. Many had totally unfinished bases that were either sheared or irregular. There was quite a few different types of obsidian: (Glass Buttes, jet black, mouse obsidian, mahogany, etc., etc.). I have a handful of these here. John
(We continued the conversation...)
John,
As I understand it, the Paulina Cache was found below the Mazama

ash layer, which would establish the time period for these as at least that age, some 7,000 years. Scott That is correct .... John

Some years ago, in 2008, John Byrd wrote in an auction on eBay about the above projectile point which he was offering for bid, from the Dietz Cache:

“The largest cache of projectile points ever found in North America was discovered by the Dietz family on private property along Paulina Creek in central Oregon.”

With over 2100 points, it was a massive collection that was divided three ways among the family. “Twenty years ago I purchased two thirds of this collection and sold it in small groups in custom redwood cases. “Every once in a while a few of these pop up and when they do they are eagerly sought after by collectors. “I have been lucky enough to be able to offer a small handful of these today. “The points in this cache are of the Cascade type dating 8,000 to 4,000 years old. “All of the points in this cache were obsidian except for one which was a butterscotch jasper. “They are often fairly unifacial; have extended needle tips; many have fractured base and most have extremely heavy patina. “This one is well worked on both sides with a thin base and made from a nice gray obsidian.”

The artifact at the far right side of this photograph, (from John Byrd’s recent artifact catalog offering):

“Paulina Creek Cache Cascade Point, G-8. One of the classic specimens from this famous cache found by the Dietz Family in central Oregon. Quite unifacial as the majority in this cache were.”

“Paulina Creek Cache Cascade Point, G-8. One of the classic specimens from this famous cache found by the Dietz Family in central Oregon. Quite unifacial as the majority in this cache were.”
Another Excellent Example From The “Dewey Dietz Paulina Creek Cache”. It Was Offered For Sale By The Artifact Company In 2012. It Shows The Classic “Cascade” Style Of So Many Of The Obsidian Blades In This Cache.

Here are two photographs of another blade from the Dewey Dietz Paulina Creek Cache, which shows the classic Cascade point form which John Byrd described in his notes about the 2130 projectile points found in this cache back in 1961:

“They are often fairly unifacial; have extended needle tips; many have fractured base and most have extremely heavy patina.”

This artifact was also offered for auction by The Artifact Company in 2012.
It measures 2-7/16“ long, with that extended needle tip.
This one has a nicely formed base.
It is worked somewhat on the second face, the labeled side, with some of the original flat surface of this side still visible, around the labels. The other face is fully flaked.

When you consider all the work that goes in to making a stone arrowhead or dart point, and how they were used in hunting for game animals, occasionally missing their target and hitting rocks or hard ground or trees, or, even if they impacted the intended game animal, there could be impact damage from bones, etc.

It is sometimes an amazing thing to find as many as we do, in decent condition. Most were damaged in use and, once they had been re-sharpened as many times as possible for re-use, then they would be recycled in a different tool form, or discarded.

Another stage in the production of stone weapons which we occasionally get to observe is the “Preform” stage ... in which the craftsman or craftswoman reduced the original chunk of stone down to a form from which the final tool or hunting weapon could be completed, as needed.

Sometimes, several of these preforms would be made and then set aside; they might be buried in a “cache”, prepared to meet future tool and hunting weapon requirements.

This would accomplish some economy of scale and save time when the finishing work was required, for replacing or replenishing the tools and hunting weapons of the group at some time in the future.

Today, we are going to look at a group of preforms which was stored long ago along the shore of one of the lakes in Lake County of eastern Oregon. They were found together many years ago:

“These were part of a collection that I purchased several years ago out of Lake County, Oregon. The finder’s name was Betty Kasewetter and she had these listed as all being found together around an old camp site on a lake shore. She didn’t specify which lake. They are probably all preforms waiting to be flaked into projectile points.”

That’s how they were described by Steve Lewis, who offered them on eBay in January 2015. His eBay seller ID: “stone-age”.

I recently obtained this group of 28 small- to medium-sized obsidian preforms to study in my own arrowhead making activities and to share with the readers of “The QUIVER”.

Four of the obsidian preforms in the “cache” ... all trimmed and rounded in preparation for completion into tools at some future date, as needed.

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Here Are All Of The Preforms Which Were In The Lakeside “Cache”, Found Many Centuries After They Were Originally Stored Away In Preparation For Some Time In The Future When The Ancient Stone Worker Expected To Retrieve Them And Finish The Work Of Making Needed Tools Or Hunting Weapons.

Most of these are black obsidian, with one or both faces somewhat covered by alkali deposits from long exposure to the soil around the lakes of Eastern Oregon. They measure about 1 to 1-1/2” in width by 2 to 2-1/2” long and 3/16 to 3/8” thick. Many have been trimmed from large chips of obsidian, with the thin edges trimmed down to a size from which nice dart points or large arrowheads could be made by pressure flaking. Some exhibit quite a bit of percussion flake scars on one or both faces, showing the work which was performed to bring them to this pre-form stage in the knapping process.

From this condition, it would be another 30 minutes or an hour of pressure flaking to prepare the projectile point for its intended hunting use, thinning the blade, sharpening it and preparing the base form with notches for binding into the dart shaft or arrow shaft. Photograph provided in the eBay listing, by the seller of this cache of preforms, Steve Lewis.
You Can See The Preliminary Work Which Has Been Performed Along The Edge Of This Preform ... To Prepare It For Pressure Flaking At Some Point In The Future When It Became Necessary To Complete The Manufacturing Of A Specific Tool Or Hunting Weapon ... It Would Only Take A Few Minutes To Finish The Work.
Here is one of the “Preforms” and an example of an arrowhead or dart point which could be made from it ... In just a few minutes. The “Cache” could have been a real time saver for the ancient knapper ... However, for some unknown reason, the prepared materials were never retrieved and put to use.
Some Of These Obsidian Preforms Exhibit A Fair Amount Of Percussion Work ... Showing The Flake Scars Of The Preliminary Trimming Work Which Was Performed With A "Hammer Stone" Or Perhaps An Antler Billet (A "Soft" Hammer Method) To Prepare Them To Be Finished By Pressure Flaking Into Needed Tools Or Weapons.
This preform shows one face of an obsidian artifact greatly affected by contact with chemicals in soil and water; the other face was not changed so much by those environmental factors. The exposed “up” face shows the glossy surface of volcanic glass with wind and dust polish; the covered “down” face is quite dull.
Now, For An Even Older Style Of Obsidian Blade ... From Long Before The Mazama Eruption ... Even From Before The “Clovis” Culture In The Pacific Northwest! A “Haskett” Blade ... Shown To Us From The Collection Of Bruce Pailler.

March 23, 2015
Scott
Pictured is the Lake Co., Oregon, 5 in. “Haskett” (Blessed by Big Ben) I bought many years ago.
Bruce
March 23, 2015,
Bruce,
Very nice “Haskett”. These often pre-date “Clovis” materials. Part of the Western Stemmed tradition around the Pacific Northwest which was extant in the region before them wandering Clovis style knappers came into the western part of the continent, wandering west from the East coast.
Scott
March 23, 2015
How do you think the “pre-clovis” folk came here?
Bruce
March 23, 2015
Bruce,
I think they came by watercraft from Asia and from Europe.
They got to Australia about 60,000 years ago, across water from Indonesia.
I think they explored around the shore of the ice between Asia and Alaska and came down the Pacific Coast, all the way to the south end of South America, by boat and foot.
Perhaps even before the last major Ice Age, but the evidence is either wiped out by later glaciation, or at the bottom of the now deeper ocean along the coastlines of the whole world since the end of the last Ice Age.

Scott
March 23, 2015
Whoever they were and whatever the sequence of their arrivals and departures, that evidence is all obscured by the wind, the water, and the mist of unimaginable time.
All we have to memorialize them are these fascinating artifacts that we covet and study.
We must never forget the honor and responsibilities of being the temporary custodians of these precious jewels.
Bruce

March 23, 2015
Scott
That spread of a specific technology is remarkable with no written communications, perhaps graphics and demonstration, but no written language.
That’s my story and I’m stickin’ to it!
March 23, 2015
Whoever they were and whatever the sequence of their arrivals and departures, that evidence is all obscured by the wind, the water, and the mist of unimaginable time.
All we have to memorialize them are these fascinating artifacts that we covet and study.
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Bruce

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

**Ben Stermer**  
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email: BSte122241@aol.com

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P.O. Box 882  
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**Danish Neolithic Dagger (Type IIB)**

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.

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“Northern Side Notched” dart point, early Archaic Period, 9,000 - 6,000 B.P. From Oregon. With “Preform” From Cache.

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“Northern Side Notched” dart point, early Archaic Period, 9,000 - 6,000 B.P. From Oregon. With “Preform” From Cache.

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As Seen Along The Shore Of The Potomac River By A Regular Contributor To “The QUIVER” ... On February 4, 2014, Shared In A Series Of Articles About Digital Photography Of Artifacts ... An Important Method Of Documentation For Arrowhead Collectors.

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