

T H E

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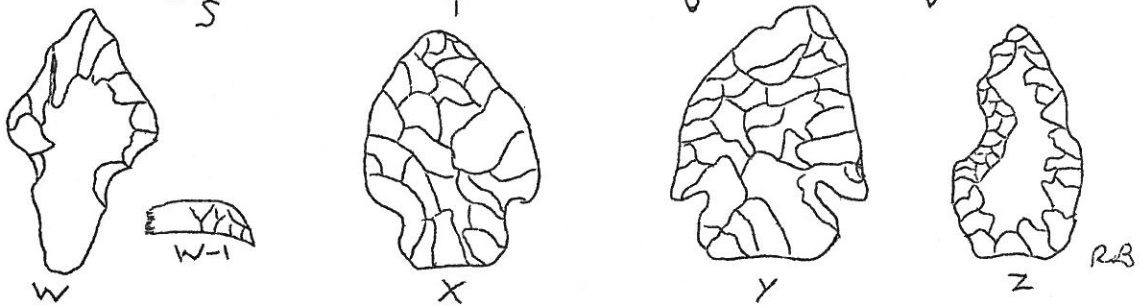
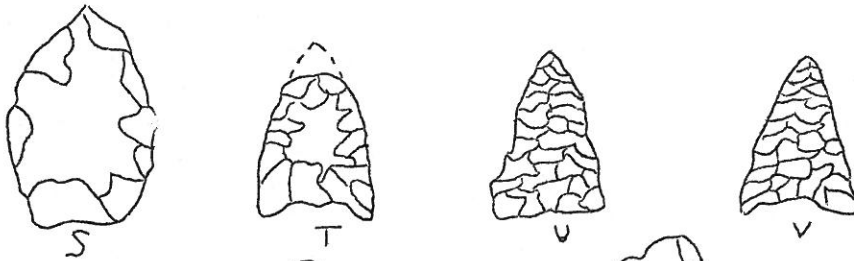
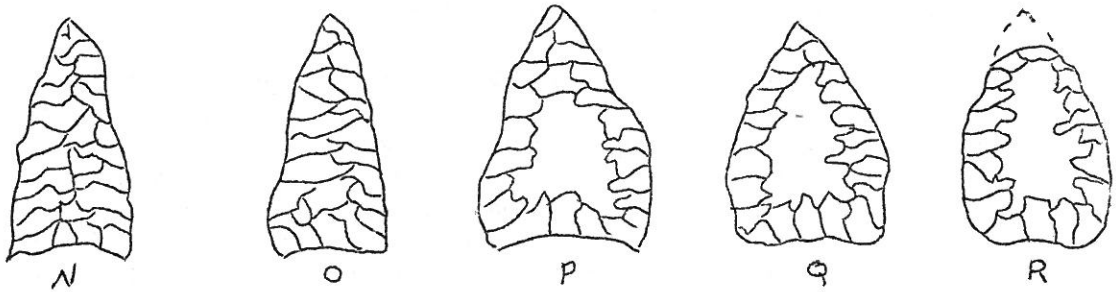
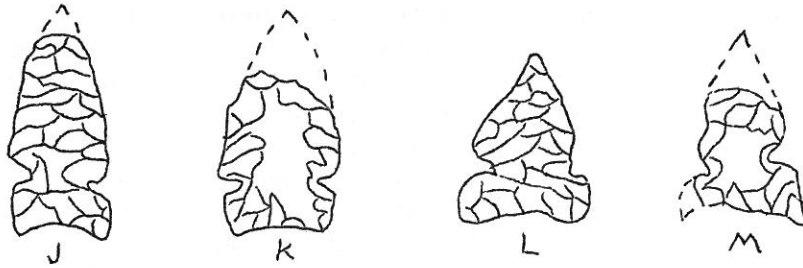
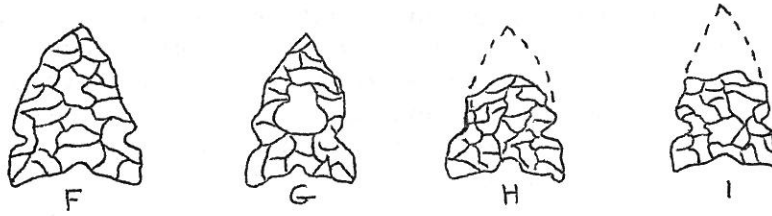
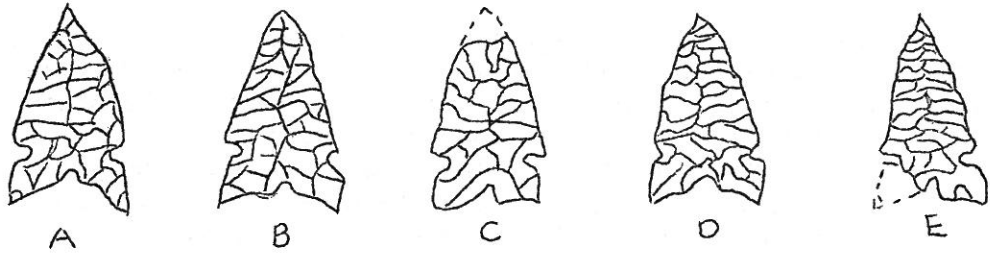
## THE BROWN-WEISER SITE (48NA330) BY BOB BROWN

The Brown-Weiser Site designated, by the Casper Chapter of the Wyoming Archaeological Society, as 48NA330 is a late plains period cave-overhang site located some 33 miles northwest of Armino, Wyoming in the southwestern region of the Big Horn Mountains. The site was an apparent hunting camp from which its inhabitants went elsewhere to hunt their game. During the period of excavating only five small fragmentary pieces of bone were found, with one of these being possibly from a bison due to its large and thick size. The rest were too small to identify. The site lies about two hundred yards north of the middle fork of Buffalo Creek. Its topographical location is 87 west, 40 north and the northeast  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 13. Its altitude is approximately 8200 ft. and it faces the south. It is located in a coarse grained sandstone ridge. This ridge runs almost parallel to the creek and at its highest point is some 25 feet up. Above the ridge is located a large mesa on which now grows a few western cedar trees, juniper bushes, quaking aspen, and some limber and lodgepole pine. In the open areas grows western sagebrush, several varieties of grasses and some wild flowers with some wild raspberries and roses growing at the base of the ridge.

The entrance to the site is now partially concealed by pine and quaking aspen trees. Over the years some of the overhanging rock has fallen down in and around the site which also helps to conceal it from the creek below. Evidently during the site's period of occupation a small wall was built, of this fallen rock, between the cave-like area and the overhang part to form two room-like areas. This was built after the main fire pit had been used as the wall passed right over the top of it and none of the rocks in the wall showed any sign of fire or smoke. One large rock, which formed the south end of the wall, had to have been laid in its place at the time of occupancy as one of the points, specimen G-Plate 1, was found in situ on top of it in a layer of about  $\frac{1}{2}$ " of dirt. This point was found when a large rock was removed from on top of the lower rock.

Most of the artifacts, about 95%, were uncovered in the cave part of the site. Only one fire lens was found in the overhang part, while some three fire lenses and the one firepit was found in the cave area. This firepit was some ten inches in diameter and twelve inches deep. A very good carbon sample was obtained from this firepit and a carbon 14 test was run on it to determine the age of this site at the time of occupancy. The date from this firepit shows it was used some 450 years before present  $\pm$  141 years. The original floor of the site was covered by some 4 to 6 inches of blackish brown dirt with the floor being a yellowish colored decomposed sandstone. One of the strangest things about this site was the abundance of perfect projectile points and the absence of bones. The most prominent type of projectile point was of the Harrell type. This is a small tri-notched very well made point. There were nine of this type, specimens A through I-Plate 1, with five of these being perfect. One point, specimen H-Plate 1, was found to be very much fire scalded. Specimens J through M are very similar to the first type only lack the basal notch. There are four of these specimens. Artifacts N through V are of the unnotched - triangular type and these seem to vary somewhat in size, length, and thickness. Specimens P, Q, & R -Plate 1 could possibly be knives as they are some thicker than the other triangle types. There was another group of unnotched projectile points found but these have a straight base where as the triangle type has a slight concave to its base. No perfect specimens were found of this type. These are numbers A & B - Plate 2 and B, C, and E - Plate 3. Artifacts X and Y - Plate 1; E - Plate 2 and A - Plate 3 are very probably intrusive with specimen Y having been broken then reworked into a small knife. Specimen E - Plate 2 is very probably the point end of a meserve type. Specimen A - Plate 3 is very much similar to those found recently at the Powers-Yonkee Site.

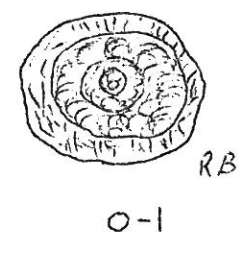
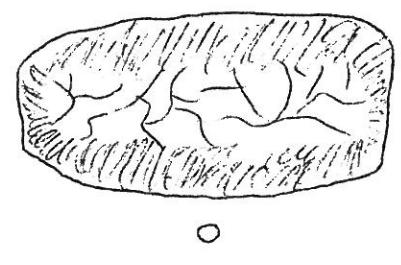
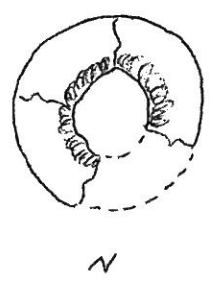
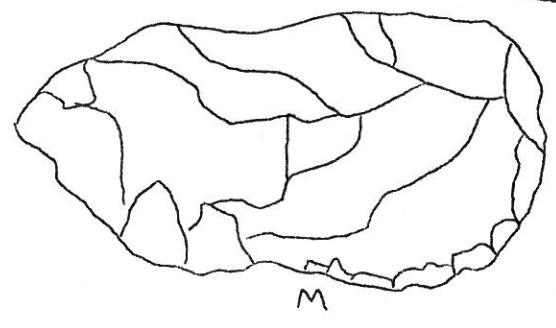
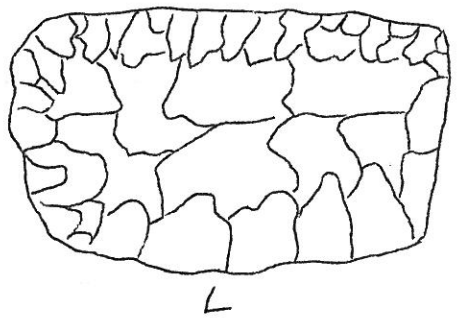
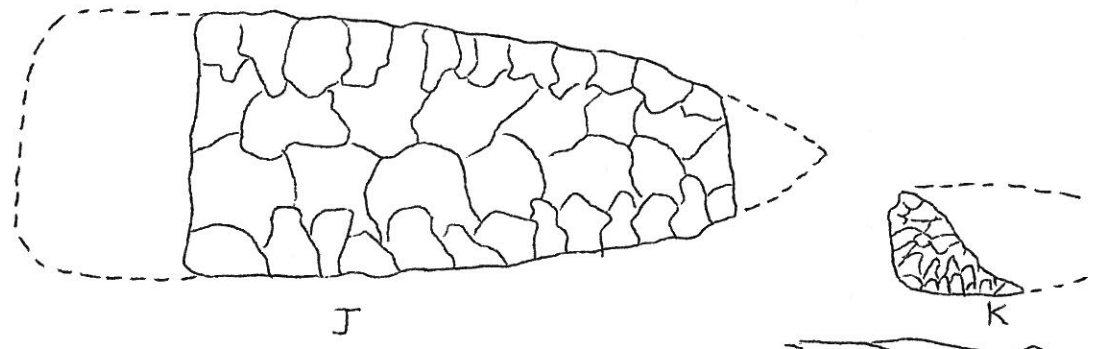
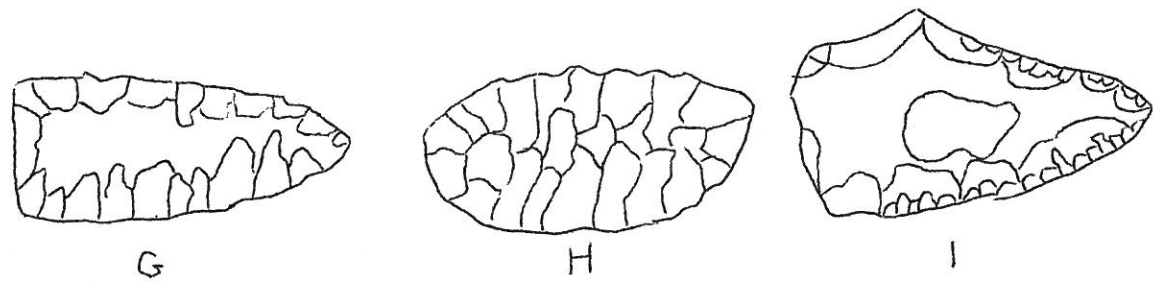
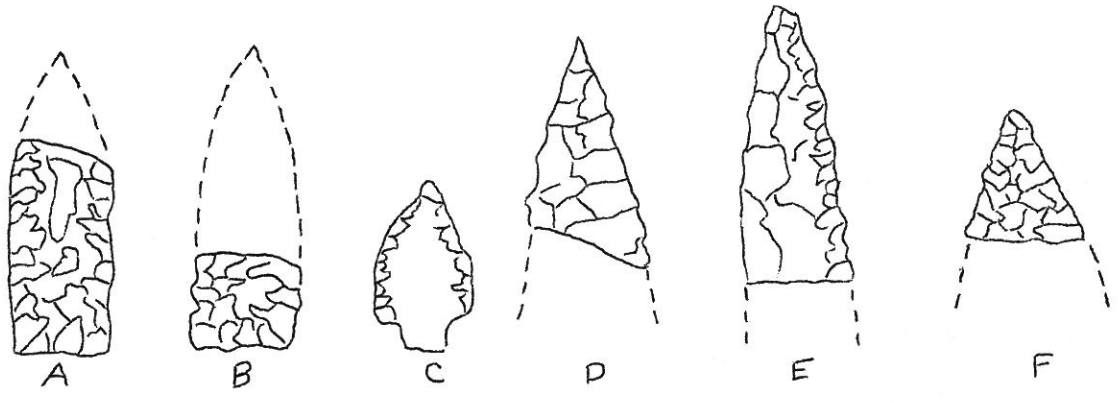
# Plate I



## ARTIFACTS PLATE 1

<u>NO.</u>	<u>COLOR</u>	<u>TYPE</u>	<u>MATERIAL</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
A	yellowish tan	point	agate	
B	light gray	point	quartzite	
C	tan and gray	point	quartzite	tip of point missing
D	tannish gray	point	quartzite	
E	tan	point	jasper	one ear missing
F	white and brown	point	jasper	
G	white	point	calcedony	
H	white	point	calcedony	fire scalded and part of point gone
I	light gray	point	quartzite	half of point missing
J	light gray	point	quartzite	tip of point missing
K	dark brown	point	jasper	part of point missing
L	black	point	jasper	
M	tannish gray	point	quartzite	part of point and tip of one ear missing
N	black	point	jasper	
O	tannish gray	point	quartzite	
P	light gray	point	quartzite	
Q	light gray	point	quartzite	
R	light gray	point	quartzite	tip of point missing
S	brown	point	quartzite	crude-could be a knife
T	white	point	quartzite	tip of point missing
U	light gray	point	quartzite	
V	light gray	point	quartzite	
W	pink	drill-graver	jasper	base is a scraper
X	purple	point	jasper	
Y	gray	knife	chert	was made from a broken point
Z	tan	knife	quartzite	could of been a point then re-worked

# Plate 2

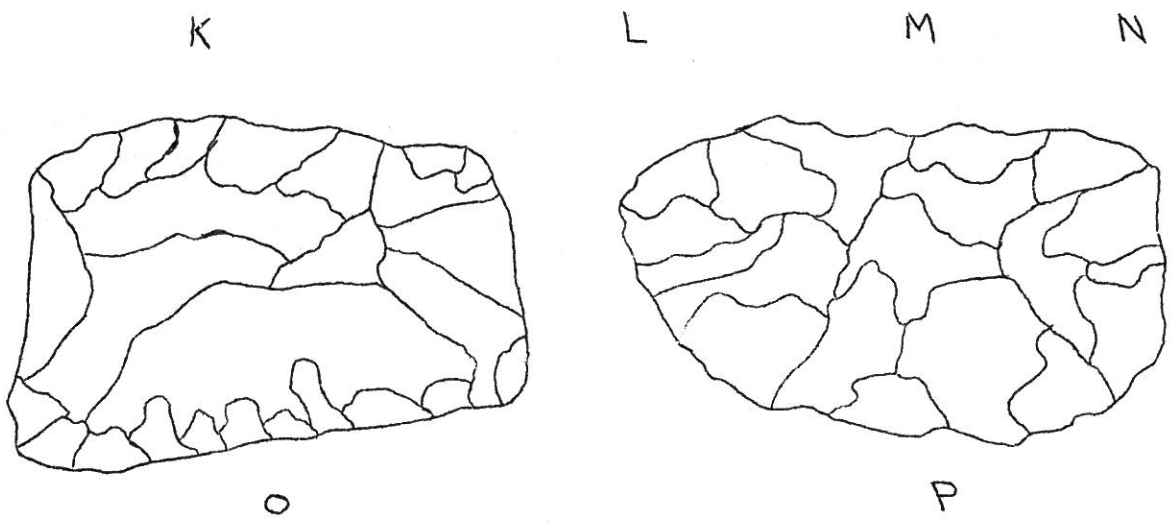
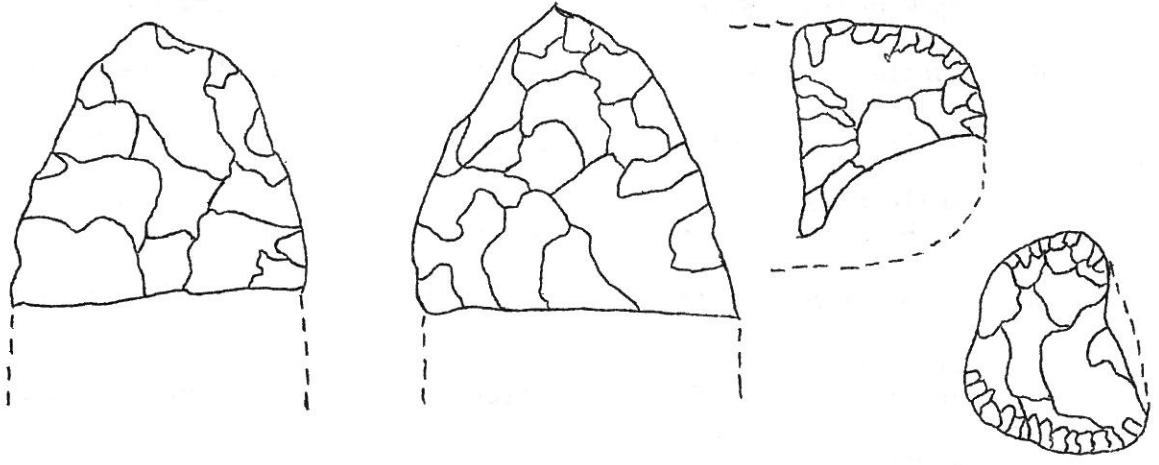
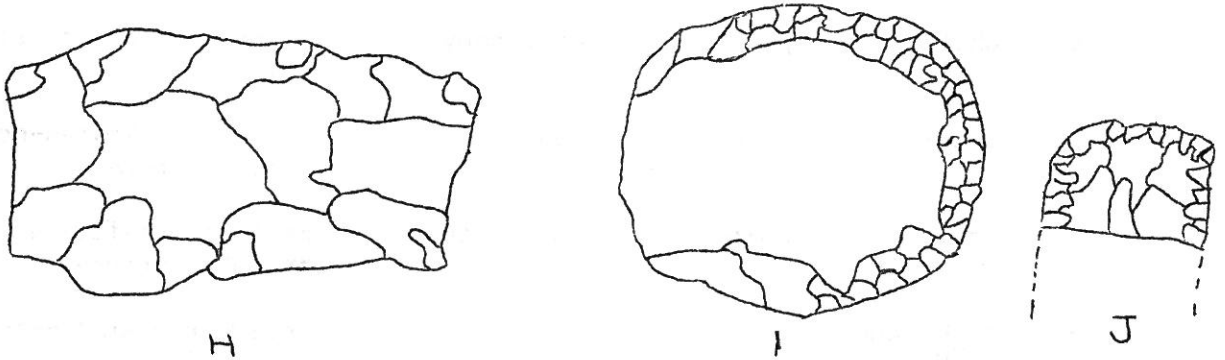
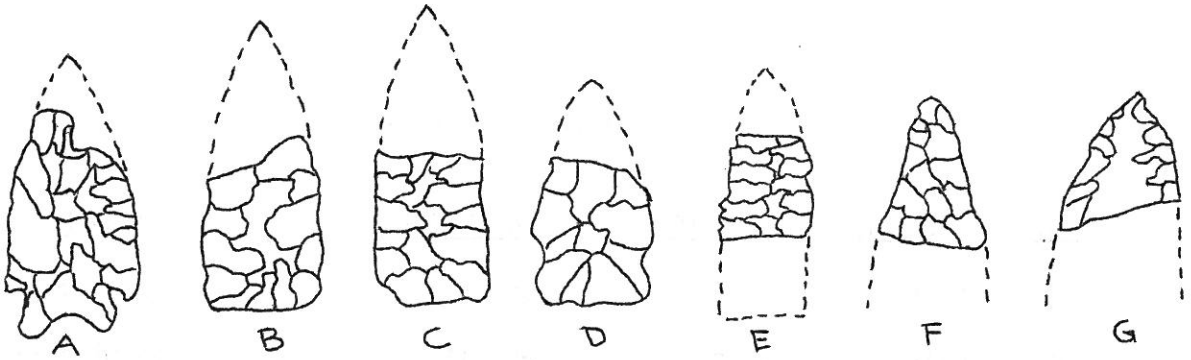


RB

## ARTIFACTS PLATE 2

<u>NO.</u>	<u>COLOR</u>	<u>TYPE</u>	<u>MATERIAL</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
A	white	point	quartzite	part of point missing
B	white	point	quartzite	most of point missing
C	white	point	calcedony	slight overall twist in point
D	black	point	basalt	could be a knife--most of artifact gone
E	white	point	quartzite	most of artifact missing-- probable meserve
F	light and dark brown	point	quartzite	could be a knife--most of artifact gone
G	purple	knife	quartzite	quite a bevel on one edge
H	black	knife	jasper	flat on back side
I	white-rose light gray	knife	agate	
J	light gray	knife	quartzite	tip and base missing
K	gray and white	knife	jasper	most of artifact missing
L	light brown	knife	jasper	quite a bevel on one edge
M	whitish gray	scraper	quartzite	
N	gray	base of pipe	steatite	only three of the four pieces of the base found
O	brown	unfinished pipe	a poor type of steatite	hole in the end about 9/16" deep

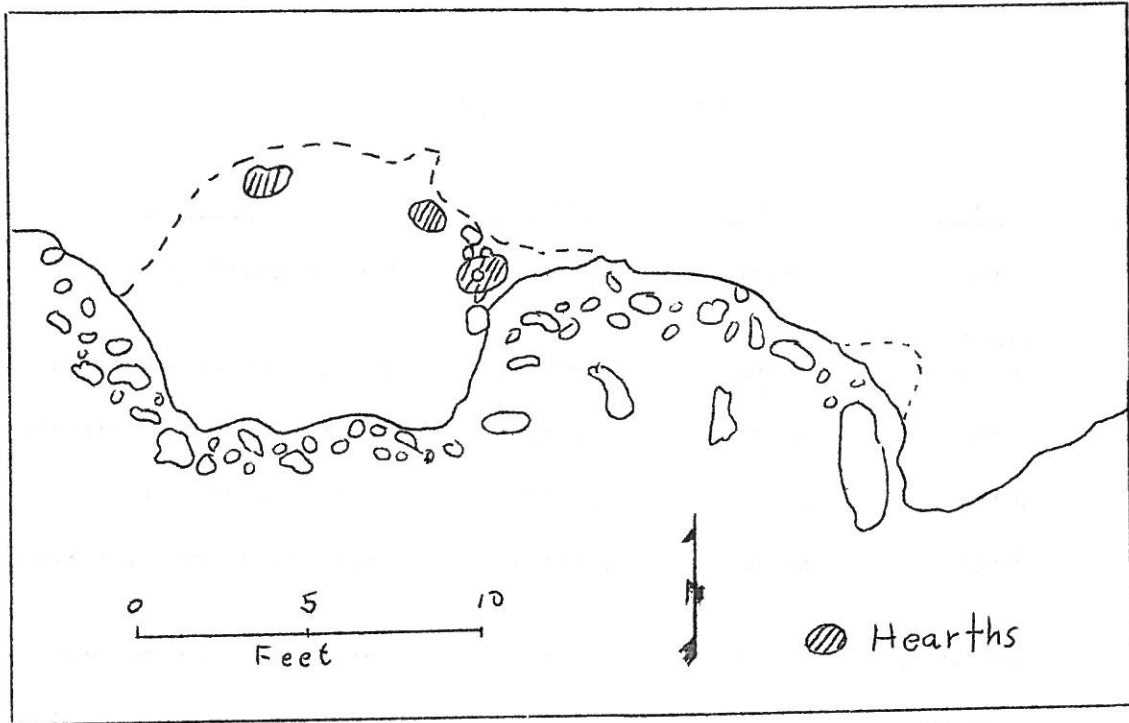
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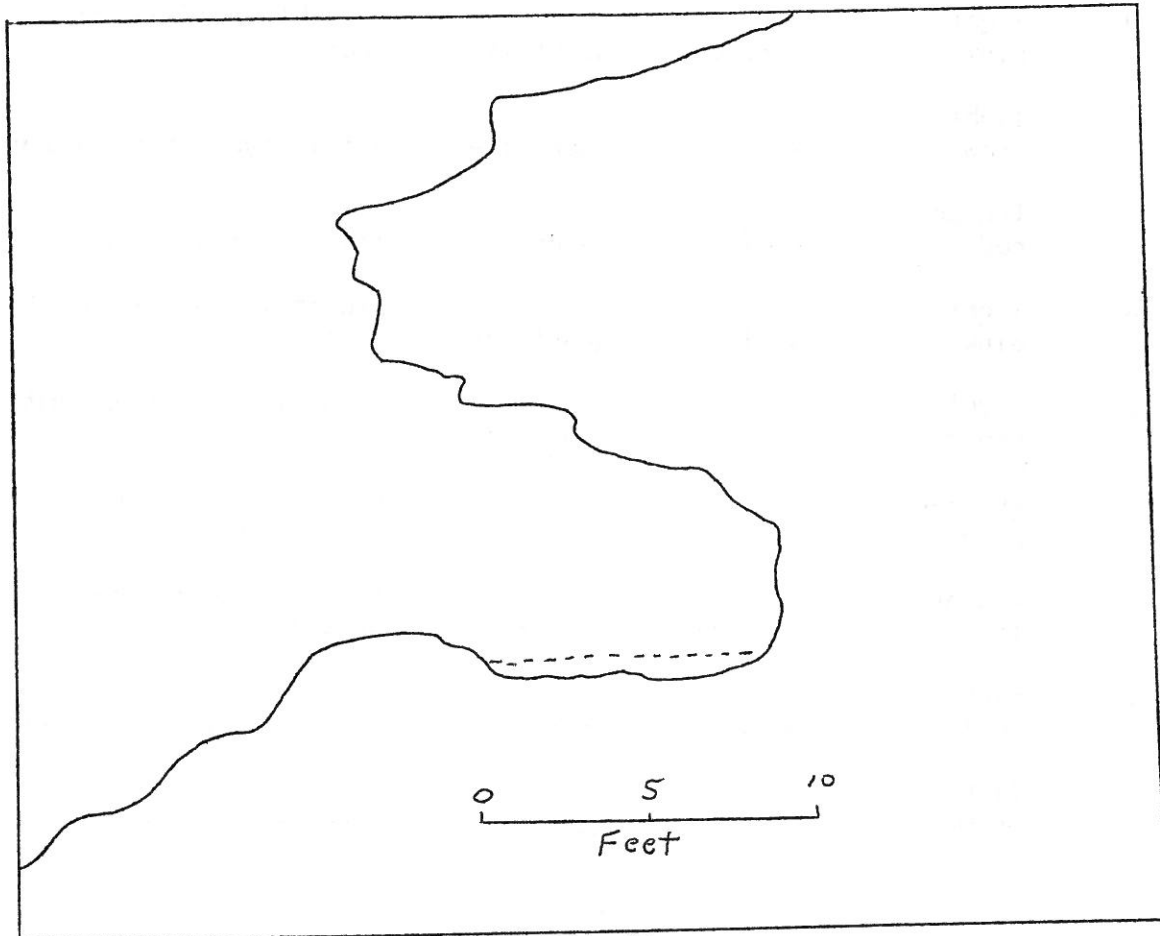
## ARTIFACTS PLATE 3

<u>NO.</u>	<u>COLOR</u>	<u>TYPE</u>	<u>MATERIAL</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
A	white	point	agate	tip of point broken off
B	light brown	point	quartzite	about $\frac{1}{2}$ of point missing
C	white	point	quartzite	about $\frac{1}{2}$ of point missing
D	white	point	quartzite	part of point missing
E	white	point	quartzite	only middle section recovered
F	black and white	point	chert	only tip was recovered
G	reddish tan	point	quartzite	possible knife--only tip recovered
H	light pink	scraper	quartzite	possible knife--very crude
I	light brown	scraper	quartzite	a thin type of a scraper
J	tan and red	knife	jasper	only one end recovered
K	light pink	knife	quartzite	probably broken--possibly whole
L	light brown	knife	quartzite	probably broken--possibly whole
M	grayish purple	knife	jasper	only a small part recovered
N	red and tan	scraper	jasper	thin type--one edge broken
O	pinkish white	knife	quartzite	crude--possible scraper
P	light brown	knife	quartzite	crude--possible scraper





Top View



Profile View

Only two definite scrapers were uncovered, these being of the end scraper type and are items M-Plate 2 and I-Plate 3. Specimen N-Plate 2 was found in three separate pieces with these being put together to form three-fourths of a lip or mouth of a steatite pipe or possibly a small vessel. Item O-Plate 2 is most probably an unfinished pipe made of a very granular type of brownish steatite. The hole in the one end had been ground out to a depth of about 9/16". Specimen W-Plate 1 is probably a type of drill or graver with the base end having been shaped into a small scraper. No grinding tools of any kind were uncovered. Of the chipped material found 156 of them were of quartzite; 35 of flint; 21 of chert; 10 of jasper; 6 of agate and 2 small pieces of obsidian.

#### CROW BUFFALO KILLS REPORTED BY HILA GILBERT

"We have a new breed of story-tellers now," Joe Medicine Crow told members and guests of the Sheridan Chapter of the Wyoming Archaeological Society, Tuesday at the Hospitality Room. They are the archaeologists who tell a story from digging up cultural remains. For this information he depends on men like Malouf, Mulloy and Bentzen, while Mr. Medicine Crow as an ethnologist, telling the story of living Indians as he heard them from way back, said he would attempt to bring the two kinds of stories together.

He sketched the history of the Crow Indians from about 1500 to 1870. In about 1600, the Great Spirit told a Crow Chief to take his people west to the land of the setting sun. At the foot of Cloud's Peak, the Great Spirit told the Chief to take the land for his people and if they followed the good medicine, the Crow tribe would increase. Mr. Medicine Crow pointed out the similarity of this story to the story of Moses in the Old Testament. From 1825 to 1850 were the peak years for the Crow tribe. A treaty of friendship and recognition was signed in 1825 and in 1851 a second treaty by the United States was signed at Ft. Laramie. At this time the Crow territory consisted of 38 million acres. In 1861 another treaty was signed at Ft. Laramie and the Crow land shrunk to 8 million acres. In 1871 reservation life began.

Mr. Medicine Crow told of old methods of chasing game going back to about 1600. "Men the world over were always chasing something to eat", he said. The Shoshonès had a system of catching mountain goats and sheep by surrounding them with the help of dogs. He described two types of buffalo jumps, a classical type which was used according to well organized plans on a large scale involving many people. They considered the project as a serious undertaking led by a Medicine Man conducting traditional ceremonies, medicine songs, prayers and incense to carry the prayers to the Great Spirit. Buffalo jumps described were the Long Ridge Jump near Livingston, the Many Skulls Jump near St. Xavier and a complex system of jumps near Grapevine Creek which Mr. Medicine Crow said resembled the Chicago stockyards.

Where the Yellowstone swings South from Livingston, a long ridge continues toward the river, giving this favorite place for hunting its name LONG RIDGE JUMP. At the camp about a mile away, the Medicine Man held council meetings and organized the hunt. Early in the morning the Medicine Man climbed to the top of a cliff where he held the hind quarters of a buffalo pointing up the ridge in a symbolic line. He sang songs four times to the four directions and burned incense to send prayers to the Great Spirit that no one might be hurt and the hunt would be good.

There were two sets of brave and fast men to do the actual drive. Following the imaginary lines, the head runner carrying incense, started, with his dogs, and lighted incense at intervals. After about one-half mile, a runner brought more incense, continuing until there were seven or eight incense pots burning on each side. The two sets of men came together and the drive was on. A few men were left on the route to help. There was much noise as the drive picked up speed. Pushing slowly at first, they ran faster and faster down toward the apex. A mysterious magic, helped by the supernatural powers of the incense drove the animals down, with some force keeping them in the line of the incense. Many buffalo were killed outright but some were not hurt as they fell on each other, but would be caught later at lower levels.

The MANY SKULLS' JUMP on the Crow Reservation is a natural trap at Hoodoo Creek and Dryhead Canyon. For years the buffalo skulls were piled here. Every year the Crows would reassemble the skulls scattered by animals and head hunters. Now the place has been completely cleaned out by souvenir hunters.

#### SHERIDAN CHAPTER MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the Sheridan Chapter was held Tuesday, December 5, in the Hospitality Room of the Bank of Commerce.

After a covered dish supper honoring Mr. and Mrs. Joe Medicine Crow, the meeting was opened to the public to hear a talk by Mr. Medicine Crow on Buffalo Jumps and early hunting.

Dr. Bentzen reported on the meeting on the Plains Conference on Archeology held at Lawton, Oklahoma during Thanksgiving.

A short business meeting was held. A decision was made to refund money advanced for memoirs of the Society and reports be submitted to the Plains Anthropologist.

A proposal was made that there should be no digging of sites under the name of the Society, unless done with knowledge and permission of Chapter with an invitation extended to Society. This will be discussed further at the State meeting.

Next meeting will be held January 8, 1962 at Sheridan College.

I should like to express my appreciation to all the members of the Sheridan Chapter for their excellent interest and support in the past year's activities. Special thanks to the chairmen of committees for their part; to Dr. Raymond Bentzen for his success on the dig; to Hila Gilbert, efficient and patient secretary; to Louis Allen for advice as well as hard work.

We have had a good year. May 1962 be full of new successes.

Margaret Powers, President  
Sheridan Chapter

## NEW EDITOR TO BE CHOSEN

This is the last issue of The Wyoming Archaeologist which will be produced by the present staff. I particularly want to express my gratitude to Mrs. Louis Allen and her classes who have done all the work of stencil-cutting, mimeographing, stapling and addressing the last three volumes. Without this help, the job would have been nearly impossible.

The editorship of The Wyoming Archaeologist has been quite an experience. After several years of it, I've come to have an enormous respect for the men who publish daily newspapers. I haven't always gotten out a short monthly newsletter on time.

During my editorship, I have followed largely my own feelings as to subject matter and slant of material. This was mainly because no guideposts were handed down with the job. Criticism, always verbal and not for publication, has been abundant. I'm not sure what it signifies, but not a single "Letter to the Editor" has been written. It probably means that nothing worth arguing about was ever written.

Mainly, I've tried to write about archaeology. I've editorialized about pothunters, antiquities laws, amateur-professional relationships and preservation of sites and materials. I've tried to pass on a little information about technology and techniques (too technical, according to some critics), leave out personalities (said to be a serious omission), and concentrate on promoting good archaeology (without a thought for the "serious collector", say some).

It has been a wonderful experience. I wouldn't have missed it for the world. I wouldn't do it again for twice that amount. I think it is high time that we have new blood, new attitudes and viewpoints, and a whole fresh approach.

I want to thank those people who have contributed material for The Wyoming Archaeologist during my editorship. Their by-lines have always appeared on their contributions, but here are their names anyway, with special thanks: Hans Kleiber, Glenn Sweem, Al Dumont, Lou Steege, Florence Castle, Hila Gilbert, Ray Bentzen, Bob Brown (this issue), and Mary Coates (not published). Several others have contributed clippings and news items, and of course the chapter secretaries contributed regular meeting reports.

Bless all of you who helped lighten the editor's load, and who helped to keep the publication from being entirely one person's viewpoints.

I herewith offer to my successor two back files of The Wyoming Archaeologist, a few sets of stencils, a correspondence file, a handful of clippings, two unpublished manuscripts, extra copies of a few back issues, 3 paper clips, my congratulations, some requisition forms, my sympathies, and possibly a few pieces of extra paper, depending on the length of this issue.

## OVER THE CAMPFIRE

Dr. C. D. Dawson, former Sheridan Chapter member, now in Mexico, sent the following Christmas greeting:

Dear Sheridan Chapter Archaeologists:

One of the brightest spots in my 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  year life in Sheridan was the association

with the Archaeology Society and the acquaintance of my most enchanting friends. I shall miss you all and deeply regret that my schedule never allowed me to participate in a "Dig" while I was there, as there are localities near here that should be very revealing. I have joined the Genealogical Society, been to the Historical but have not yet found an Archaeology Society. I enjoy getting the Archaeologist, though my reading time has been scarce with my "digging in" interrupted by frequent travel into Mexico, to Mississippi. Greetings to all and a prosperous 1962.

C. DeWitt Dawson

Glenn Sweem and Don Grey addressed the Billings Archaeological Society on December 12. The subjects were: Diorama Construction and Studies Between the Dig and Publication.

EMBERS OUT!