

WYOMING
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SOCIETY

THE WYOMING ARCHAEOLOGIST



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ANNUAL MEETING

Casper, Wyoming - April 7 and 8, 1978

The Annual Meeting, April 7, 1978, in Casper, Wyoming, was called to order by President, Mary Helen Hendry, and proceeded at a lively pace until way past closing time. I'm not sure when everybody took leave of the hospitality of John and Evelylin Albanese, but it must have been nudging Sunday pretty good.

The business meeting was predominated by discussion and action on method of constitutional and by-law changes. As a result, the Constitution and By-Laws can now be changed within one legal meeting of the Wyoming Archaeological Society.

According to financial statements submitted and audited, both the Wyoming Archaeological Foundation and the Wyoming Archaeological Society are solvent, and Milford is in the clear again. Rising postal rates may affect that solvency to the point that future altering of dues structure becomes necessary.

In his annual "State of the Union" message, Dr. Frison gave us the good news and the bad news. Activity continues at a break-neck pace where the State Archaeologist, University of Wyoming and the Recreation Commission are concerned. Dedicated and hard working personnel are staying on top of the situation. When one considers the size of the State and demands placed on these people by current energy emphasis, respect and admiration naturally follow.

Support of positions, activities, and programs where the University are concerned, are at a very low level. Budgetary action from the Legislature is almost non-existent. Support from the Wyoming Recreation Commission is excellent.

The Land Commissioner and Land Office continually circumvent every possible law to thwart and bar any and all archaeological efforts within our state. Such blatant disregard of rules and preservation of cultural resources should be of grave enough concern to dictate immediate reaction from all members of this Society. We all must make our Representatives, elected and proposed, aware of this deplorable situation. Our combined voices are the only avenue open for alteration of existing conditions.

Various outside interests have been and are continuing to do Archaeological surveys within this state, failing to contact the State Archaeologist's office or proper government agencies. Perhaps a bit of policing and reporting from amateurs would be in order.

The first occasional Paper on Wyoming Archaeology was in evidence at this meeting. It is entitled "The Big Goose Creek Site: Bison Procurement and Faunal Analysis", by George C. Frison, Michael Wilson, and Danny N. Walker. (Available from the Department of Anthropology for \$2.50.) Dead Indian Creek Site and Helen Lookingbill Site will probably be next in order.

Associate State Archaeologist, George Ziemens, reported on rules and regulations imposed by certain government interests and expressed concern about their effectiveness, a feeling which

we all share where bureaucracy is concerned. Student papers presented were: Kim Smiley, "Changes in Holocene Bison Cursorial Ability"; Rhoda Lewis, "Recording Methodology at the Carter Kerr-McGee Site"; (*) Mary Lou Larson, "The Charity Site: A Plains Archaic Site in Southeastern Wyoming"; Willy Tibesar, "Grayrocks: A Woodland Site in Eastern Wyoming"; Larry C. Todd, "The Long's Butte # 2 Site: An Example of Controlled Surface Collection"; Leslie Shaw, "Little Canyon Creek Cave: A Multi-Component Dry Cave Site near Tensleep, Wyoming"; Bill Latady, "Evidence of Seasonal Occupation from Little Canyon Creek Cave"; Judy Pinner, "Firehearth Excavation Methods"; John Albanese, "Geology and Archaeology in the Powder River Basin"; Charles Reher, "John Meredith and Carolyn Buff, Preliminary Report on the River Bend Site"; Jack Hoffman, "The Spiro Mound Site and Artifacts, an Overview of the Southeastern Ceremonial Complex in Oklahoma"; (*) Julie Longenecker and Paula Rosa, "Burials at Fort Phil Kearny".

Jim Adams from the Fremont County Chapter presented a slide program on a Survey in the Bison Basin, Red Desert, Wyoming. This was a cooperative effort of the Fremont County Chapter. They, Jim and Lucille Adams, are to be complimented on their documentation of this survey, a good example for others to follow.

The cocktail hour and banquet were held in the Drawbridge Room of the Townsend Hotel, at which time the Mulloy scholarship was jointly awarded to Julie Longenecker and Mary Lou Larson.

Dr. J. M. Adovasio from the University of Pittsburgh culminated the evening with a remarkable presentation of excavations, techniques, and methodology employed at Meadowcroft Rock-shelter in Southeastern Pennsylvania. Carefully controlled and analyzed data from this rock-shelter show dates from 1775 A.D. to 28,760 B.C., with some Pre-Clovis artifacts in evidence. Dr. Adovasio's excellent slide lecture concluded a well organized annual meeting of the Wyoming Archaeological Society.

ARCHAE ANNIE

Archae Annie was at the work shop in Laramie on February 18th and found it one of the most stimulating and exciting experiences of 13 years in the Wyoming Archaeological Society. We believe the organizers and executioners of these meetings deserve a vote of thanks from all of us.

Bruce Bradley did a superb job of illustrating, explaining, and demonstrating on the black board and with flint, the making of Folsom and Clovis tools, using the artifacts found at the Hanson Site as examples. We were all close enough to see him work and to examine the tools he has made to do the flint knipping. Bruce and George Frison were always willing and able to answer all questions from the audience. After the afternoon session, George Frison showed and explained in his laboratory and in his office more Hanson I and II artifacts and some of these recovered from the Horner Site.

Do we sound rapturous? We are! And thirty minutes with Bruce over the guacamole at George Zeiman's "Bash", answering ALL questions, helped the enthusiasm for the entire very good day. Those members who thought they would get to the work shop and didn't, really missed an experience.

The Wyoming Archaeological Society is most fortunate to have George Frison as our State Archaeologist. It must be most uncommon in academia to have a man of his stature giving freely of his time and self to the amateur.

No response from Archae Annie's questions and thoughts. If you have some, please send to

Archae Annie
P. O. Box 703
Saratoga, Wyoming 82331.

NOTES FROM THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

April 5, 1978.....Taking over the job of Executive Secretary has been quite an experience for me. Without the assistance of many, including George Brox, Mary Helen Hendry, Milford Hanson, and especially Larry Osborne, I would not have been able to handle this position. There is certainly more to it than I had imagined. I appreciate the patience and help of all of you.

If you have not already done so, please send the names and addresses of 1978 members to me as soon as possible. Also, I must have a list of Officers for 1978 from each Chapter, along with the meeting schedule (time and place). Since memberships arrive all year around (unfortunately), please indicate clearly what year each is for.

Among other activities I have been slowly attempting to get our library organized again. At some future time I may have available not only a list of publications and dates in our library, but also the contents of each. But for the present the best I can do is to answer specific questions. In each future issue of the *ARCHAEOLOGIST* I also will try to list the new materials I have received, including articles in exchange publications and announcements of books, films, meetings, etc.

For more information on any of these items, contact me at the Department of Anthropology, University of Wyoming, Laramie, Wyoming, 82071.

JUDY PINNER

RECENTLY RECEIVED MATERIALS

FLYERS.....A news letter concerning the *GREAT PLAINS JOURNAL*, which is a semi-annual publication just recently added to our exchange list. Present cost of this publication is \$7.50 per year. All back issues (from 1961 to present) are available for prices ranging from \$2.50 to \$3.75 each. If anyone is interested in ordering these, please contact me for more information.

Publication Announcement.....*THE MYSTERY HILL STORY* by Mark Feldman. The book is a comprehensive, definitive publication covering all the important highlights in the long history of the site, and includes information and data never before published. Research at the site has reached an important milestone, and it is time that the public be made fully aware of what this research entails. The book represents a complete and up-to-date overview of this site and of those who have been involved in developing an understanding of its place in the history and pre-history of America. The book is oversized, 6x9, for easy reading and reference, and is fully bound in soft cover. Included are 18 photographs plus maps and sketches. Cost is \$4.00 plus \$0.25 for delivery. Contact me for more information.

Archaeological Institute of America, 1978 Fieldwork Opportunities Bulletin.....The bulletin, available January 1st, covers programs in the U.S. and abroad, including opportunities for volunteers, staff positions, field schools, and general information. Contact me for further information.

The Northwestern University Archaeological Program announcement of a new publication series, SCIENTIFIC PAPERS. Vol. 1, THE MIDDLE WOODLAND POPULATION OF THE LOWER ILLINOIS VALLEY: A STUDY IN PALEODEMOGRAPHIC METHODS, by David L. Asch, and Vol. 2, HOPEWELL IN THE LOWER ILLINOIS VALLEY: A REGIONAL APPROACH TO THE STUDY OF HUMAN BIOLOGICAL VARIABILITY AND PREHISTORIC BEHAVIOR, by Jane E. Buikstra, are now available. Contact me for further information.

THE BIG DIG - "TIME OUT OF SITE".....A documentary film on the archaeology of the Near East. Reviews indicate this is an excellent movie on modern archaeological methodology as well as on the history of the Near East as revealed by excavations and Tell Gezer in 1971. Contact me for more information.

EXCHANGE PUBLICATIONS.....SASKATCHEWAN ARCHEOLOGY NEWSLETTER - March 1977, Vol. 52, #2. Contains the following articles: "Angosture Observations" by David Meyer and Leo Pettipas; "The Agate Basin-Angosture Continuum" by Leo Pettipas; "Painted (?) Ceramics in Saskatchewan" by Ivan Sharp.

ALL POINTS BULLETIN, Denver Chapter, Colorado Archaeological Society. October 1977: "Travel Log of the OSAC-CAS Tour" by Nancy Phipps; "An Evaluation of the OSAC-CAS Plains Archaeology Tour (July 1977)" by Dave Stuart; November 1977: "An Archaeological Feature at the Historic Baca House: A Preliminary Report" by David R. Stuart; "Geology of Torres Cave, 5LA1310, Las Animas County, Colorado" by Fred Rathbun. December 1977: "Archaeological Investigations at the Ken-Caryl Ranch, An Overview", by Marcia J. Tate. January 1978: "Roxborough State Park Survey Progress Report" by Marcia Tate. February 1978: "Some Common Lithic Tool Materials", by Fred C. Rathbun. March 1978: "Notes on the 4th Annual Prehistoric and Indian Artifact Show" by John Roberts. NOTE: All of these issues contain other information concerning the chapter and their current activities.

MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY, MISCELLANEOUS SERIES, #39, 1977, University of Northern Colorado, Greeley. "It's a Natural Fact: Obeah in the Bahamas" by Basin C. Hedrick and Jeannette E. Stephens.

MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY, OCCASIONAL PUBLICATIONS IN ANTHROPOLOGY, ETHNOLOGY SERIES # 2, 1977. "Treaties Between the Tribes of the Great Plains and the United States of America: Cheyenne and Arapaho, 1825-1900, etc." George E. Fay, editor.

SOUTHWESTERN LORE, Colorado Archaeological Society. September 1977: Vol. 43, #3 contains the following articles: "The Paleo-Indian Period on the Colorado Plateau" by Alan R. Schroedl. "Two Vandalized Pueblo III Burials: Some Key Factors Affecting Vandalism of Sites" by Douglas Scott. "Facial Asymmetry and Artificial Cranial Deformation in a Set of American Indian Skulls" by John Sheets. "Aboriginal Sandstone Quarries in the Foothills of Northeastern Colorado" by Kenneth L. Kvamme.

MISSOURI ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER.....October 1977, #314: "Numbering of Cultural Resource Sites" by David R. Evans. November 1977, #315: "A Human Effigy from the Renner Site" by Jim D. Feagins.

GREAT PLAINS JOURNAL.....Spring 1977, Vol. 16 #2 contains the following articles:
"Rise and Fall of the Invisible Empire, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan" by L. Edward Carter.
"Townsite Development of the Wichita Falls and Northwestern Railway" by Donovan L. Hofsommer.
"Grasshopper Harvesters on the Great Plains" by R. Douglas Hurt. "Birds of the Wichita Mountains" by Jack D. Tyler.

MUSEUM OF THE GREAT PLAINS NEWSLETTER.....Winter 1977-78, #2 contains current information regarding the Museum's work at Ft. Sill, on the Waurika Pipeline, new exhibits and collections recently received.

AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGIST.....Winter-Spring 1978, Vol. #3 contains the following brief articles: "Preliminary Observation at the Hester Site, Mississippi" by Sam Brooks. "Daniel Boone's Button or Excavation at Bob Evans Rock Shelter" by James L. Murphy. "Why Do We Dig?" by Stuart Struever. "Prehistoric Ghetto?" by B. Ira Judd. "The Waubensee Stone" by Richard F. Bales. "A Second Radiocarbon Revolution" by Ronald Hicks. "Archaeo-astronomy in American" by Peter D. Skiff. "Edgefield Scrapers from South Georgia" by Chris Trowell. "Distribution of Pitted Stone Objects in South Georgia" by Frankie Snow.

POPULAR ARCHAEOLOGY.....1977, Vol. 6 # 4 contains the following articles: "New Date Places Man in America 40,000 Years Ago" by William Jack Hranicky. "Tusk of Extinct Ice Age Mammal Excavated at Pitt's Meadowcroft Dig Found in Error. Meadowcroft Dig Continues to Throw Light on Prehistory" by Iola B. Parker. Other miscellaneous articles of current interest. 1977, Vol. 6, #5/6 contains the following articles: "Prehistoric Bones Are Discovered in Florida" (no author); "Team Recovers Artifacts, Puts Men on the Wreck of the Monitor" by Ken Ringle; "PALeo-Artifacts Are Found in Connecticut" by Michael Knight; "All Is Not Gold for the Nautical Archaeologist" by Nancy B. Reed; other miscellaneous articles of current interest.

DATES TO REMEMBER.....1978 Plains Conference - November 8 - 11, 1978 - in Denver.

CHAPTER REPORTS

CASPER CHAPTER - Annual Report - Activities - 1977

Our January meeting was held in conjunction with the Wyoming Historical Society's premiere showing of their film on the History of Wyoming. The film presented a proud and realistic look at our Wyoming; an exciting look that started with prehistory and moved rapidly forward.

In February, Father Kinner, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, was our guest speaker. His presentation on today's Indian was unusually warm and interesting. He introduced us to a truly great people who have retained much of their culture in spite of many attempts by society to enlighten the Tribes.

For the March meeting, our guest speaker was Terry Logue, who discussed Wyoming fossils, giving us an insight into the number and variety found throughout Wyoming. An outstanding program!

The Annual Spring Meeting took the place of our April meeting.

At our May meeting, John Albanese presented a talk on his paper Paleotopography and Paleo Indian Sites in Wyoming and Colorado. For a spell binder, this is highly recommended.

Our first campout was held in June. We were joined by members from the Cheyenne and Fremont County Chapters. Henry Jensen was our "Trail Leader". The camp site was located at the old Fuller Ranch homestead complete with scenery, running stream, artifacts, and mosquitoes. An additional mile of Henry's "Indian Trail" was located. We also traveled the better known trail to the travois ruts through the rock outcroppings. It was a fun week end.

Some of our members attended the Rendezvous across the border in Colorado in July. Those who attended reported a great time.

In August, we were again fortunate in sharing a campout with the Cheyenne Chapter. As always, we enjoyed companionship, fun, and learning. Cheyenne is a tremendous host.

After all the summer activities, Jim Adams of Lander started our fall meetings as guest speaker in September. He presented a talk and slides on petroglyphs and pictographs. Jim selected excellent slides which represented many sections of the country. We are hoping that we may see more of these in the future.

Our October meeting was held at the Wyoming School for the Deaf. Rod Laird presented a discussion with film of Bruce Bradley's flintknapping and student projects in Indian History. We viewed the outstanding panorama of the Casper Site; the panorama constructed by students is a highly recommended visit, if you have not already done so.

Also, during October, a few members explored several of the sand dunes north of Casper. Although no specific site was discovered, evidence of earlier people was there. We feel this area hold promise, and we plan to have future prospecting trips.

October gave us more excitement when the Riverbend Site was discovered. Chuck Rehrer, who was then at Casper College, and Carolyn Buff of Casper College, Dr. Frison, George Zeimens, students from both the College and the University, as well as members of the Casper Chapter, Cheyenne, and Cherokee Trail Chapters, all joined the frantic efforts to salvage as much as possible in a short time.

In November, Chuck Rehrer gave us a comprehensive discussion, with artifacts, on the Riverbend Site. Chuck's more-than-adequate discussion left no one in doubt that the frantic efforts were well rewarded. And, who knows, with luck perhaps more will be learned.

Again, we were fortunate to have Chuck as our December guest speaker. His discussion of Wyoming Sites, with slides, held us spellbound. Needless to say, we were sorry to lose Chuck, but hope that some day he may come back to Casper College.

Although 1977 was a busy year, the Casper Chapter had its failure: an attempt to gain the cooperation of the Natrona County Zoning and Planning Commission in giving us prior notice of planned development around Casper and in Natrona County was rejected. The Chapter had hoped to avoid another fast salvage effort like the Riverbend Site. However, since the Commission rejected our proposal, it is highly probable that valuable sites will be destroyed in the future.

CHEROKEE TRAIL CHAPTER - 1977

Our January meeting was highlighted by the nomination of officers. Avon Brock was elected President; Deborah Chastain as Vice President; Berneil McCord as Secretary-Treasurer; two-year Directors were Harley McCord and Henry Flohr; one-year Directors were Ada Jackson and Mark Miller. Debbie Chastain was elected State Board Representative. It was decided that we should donate \$25.00 toward the rebuilding of the old Fort Steele historical site.

At the February meeting our State President Brox gave an interesting report on the Winter Work Shop held in Rock Springs. A number of our members had been fortunate enough to be able to attend this affair. We also enjoyed a very fine movie entitled "The Excavation at La Venta" in old Mexico.

The March meeting was omitted in lieu of our annual dinner. This was our 9th Anniversary and was well attended. Our guest speaker for the evening was Charlie Love from Rock Springs who gave a most interesting slide presentation.

Our April and May meetings were utilized to plan our many summer field trips, which we had hopes of taking. Also in May we had as our guest speaker, Mrs. Marian Huseas, who gave a most interesting program on the Plains Indians.

During the summer months we had many good field trips, including a trip to Coyote Springs, the Cherokee Creek area, and others. We had had a trip scheduled for the Brandenburg Smelter but due to an unexpected storm and consequently too much mud, we had to cancel out. Many

of our members had been to the summer meeting at Cold Springs and had a most enjoyable time. Some of our people had gone on to another area while there, and reported having very good luck.

The Fall months finished out the year for us with a demonstration by the Ellis's and Hanson's from Cody, on plastic casting of Artifacts, a slide presentation by George Brox on various sites around the State and a film shown by Bob Randal, titled "The Early Americans", which was put out by the Shell Oil Company.

All in all, we had a most memorable year and have hopes that 1978 will hold many more exciting and enjoyable events for the Cherokee Trail Chapter.

Berneil McCord - Secretary-Treasurer

THE RIVER BEND SITE

This very important, recently exposed site has been and is still being extensively investigated. Its importance lies in two distinct areas, number one: it is one of two or three occupational sites which represent usage at about the time of contact with white man; present thinking indicates that the River Bend Site may have been a thriving village just prior to actual contact and trading with the white man. The second important facet lies within the tremendous cooperation which was shown in revealing, developing, and salvaging this site. A nameless workman is probably the first link in this chain, by notifying necessary people that something of unusual and seeming importance was being exposed by earth removal at a housing project location.

Almost immediately, Casper College and Casper Chapter of the Wyoming Archaeological Society were on the scene, and still continue being there. Land owner and developers were closely involved, along with the State Archaeologist, the Wyoming Recreation Commission, the Wyoming Archaeological Society, news media, T V cameras, Sheriff's Department, Jack Daniels, Christian Brothers, private citizens, and concerned individuals. The efforts of all have affected salvage of a tremendously important site, which would have otherwise been lost.

Because of previous activity in the area, overall extent of the site will remain unknown. The remnants occupied an area approximately 100 meters wide by several hundred meters long.

The site's original location is on the flood plain of the North Platte River. Subsequent dune action buried the site under several feet of sand which by aeolian activity and bipedal manipulation was eventually removed to re-expose the site.

Lodge floor outlines indicate this was an extensive village with the accompanying communal activities. Artifacts recovered indicate butchering activity, hide processing, and gathering of all food types available within the adjacent areas. Bone remnants from bison to the smallest rodent and reptile are present in abundance. Mussel shells in various stages of usage for ornamentation litter the entire area. Antlers from original form to completed tools are in profusion. One professional has suggested this is one of the richest sites he has seen. Steatite bowl fragments are in evidence.

Measurement of tooth eruption and wear, plus fetal remains indicate this was probably a late fall and winter operation.

Charles Reher has indicated evidence that points strongly to Shoshoni occupancy. If not that, then Crow, Arapahoe, Sioux, Mandan, Hidatsi, or as the news comentator says on TV, this is one amateur's viewpoint.

BURIALS AT FORT PHIL KEARNY

BY

Julie G. Longenecker and Paula E. Rosa

University of Wyoming

ABSTRACT

Several depressions found adjacent to Fort Phil Kearny were thought to be human graves related to the occupation of the Fort. Excavations were met with an unusual sequence of events necessitating a rapid change in hypotheses and methodology as the investigations progressed.

Paper presented at the 35th Plains Conference
November 17 - 19, 1977 - Lincoln, Nebraska

Fort Phil Kearny is located 15 miles North of Buffalo, Wyoming, at the foot of the Big Horn Mountains. The Fort, occupied from July 1866 to August 20, 1868, was one of three forts built to protect travelers on the Bozeman Trail. Montana gold, discovered in 1862, was the motivating factor for opening and defending this trail.

Later called the Montana Road, the Bozeman Trail and its three forts: Fort C. F. Smith, Fort Reno, and Fort Phil Kearny, were greatly resented by the Sioux, Cheyenne, and Arapaho. The Trail crossed "the Plains Indians' last unspoiled hunting grounds, the Powder River Country" (Brown, 1962;13). The Indians, mainly the Sioux, expressed their hatred by constant harassment and by well-known battles such as the Fetterman Massacre and the Wagon Box Fight. However, the Indians "agreed to cease all hostilities if the soldiers would leave the country north of the Platte and west of the Black Hills" (Brown, 1962;224). In August, 1868, the Fort Laramie Treaty was signed, the three forts were abandoned and the Montana Road was closed. Upon abandonment, Fort Phil Kearny was burned.

A small cemetery remained. It was located one quarter of a mile south of the Fort, at the foot of Pilot Hill. In October, 1888, 111 bodies were disinterred by the military and moved to Custer National Cemetery in Montana. Not all those who were known to have died at the Fort were found. Eight or nine graves remain to be located. Concerning the missing graves, three possible explanations have been suggested by historians.

- A. The bodies are buried somewhere in the original cemetery, but have not been found.
- B. There is another cemetery somewhere around the Fort.
- C. Those bodies not accounted for were not buried at the Fort.

W. G. Olsen, a local historian, chooses to believe that the bodies are buried somewhere near the Fort. Olsen is an expert on the history of Fort Phil Kearny and has struggled with the problem of the missing graves for years.

Last spring, eight definite and one possible depressions were found on a knoll adjacent to the Fort. These 2-meter by 1-meter depressions resembled grave-like concavities. Were these possibly the missing graves? Olsen notified the Wyoming State Archaeologist's office.

George Zeimens, Associate State Archeologist, and the crew of four began excavating two of the depressions to determine whether human remains were present.

Our working hypothesis was that the depressions were the missing graves from the Fort. To test the hypothesis, a 2-meter by .5-meter cross-section of both depressions were dug. The features were cross-sectioned to obtain a profile of the original pit. The original walls of the presumed graves were visible approximately 20 centimeters below surface. Bones became visible at 76 centimeters below surface. In both cases, intact thoracic cavities were uncovered. These were not human but horse bones. Our original mission was accomplished. The depressions were obviously not human graves.

The buried horse bones, however, raised a new set of problems. Were the horses related to the time of Fort occupation? Were they military horses? If so, how did they die? Indian battle? Disease? And, why were they buried? In Wyoming, digging graves for dead livestock is not a common practice. It is more common to drag dead animals to the hills or into an open field to decompose or to be devoured by carnivores.

We revised our working hypothesis to: the horses died during Fort occupation and were buried on this knoll. Testing the hypothesis involved excavation of the horse legs and feet to determine if the horses had been shod. Perhaps the shoes would associate the horses with the military. The horses were found to be unshod. The skull of one of the horses was then excavated. Possibly this would determine cause of death. Had the horse been shot or did he die of natural means? A bullet hole was located approximately 2 centimeters above the eye orbits. The bullet was traced from entry, between the eye orbits, to the cervical area. Here, a copper-jacketed bullet was found. Since copper-jacketed bullets were not used until 1892, the horse postdates Fort occupation by at least 24 years. Therefore, the horses were not related to the Fort.

The copper-jacketed bullet raised a new set of questions. Who killed and buried the horses? Why?

We developed a new hypothesis. The animals belonged to locals. They were diseased, later shot and buried so not to contaminate other livestock. We tested this hypothesis by first examining the bones of one horse. Three fused lumbar vertebrae were observed. Perhaps the animal was no longer useful and therefore shot by his owner. The next course of action would have been a records search for past cases of epidemics in the area.

About this time, Mrs. Harriet Gibson Weaver, a local historian, arrived at the site. Her father was Sergeant Samuel Gibson of the 27th Infantry and one of the survivors of the Wagon Box Fight. Mrs. Weaver said she "knew all about those horses." The Geier family, a local ranching family in the early 1900s, had a great attachment for horses. When a horse died, the family performed a small ceremony and buried the animals on that small knoll. Olsen confirmed this with Mrs. Ruth Geier Rice, the older sister.

The missing human bodies have yet to be found.

The main thing learned from this experience was that problems may change rapidly as excavations progress. These new problems necessitate revised hypotheses from time to time. This is just one of many examples this student has witnessed of how archeological research must be kept open-ended and the archeologist must be flexible and willing to revise his hypotheses and methodology as his work progresses.

REFERENCES CITED

- Brown, Dee A.
1962 Ft. Phil Kearny, an American Saga. Putnam, New York.
- Olsen, W. G.
1977 personal communication.

CONCLUSION OF:

AN INVENTORY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL
RESOURCES IN THE GAS HILLS URANIUM
MINING DISTRICT

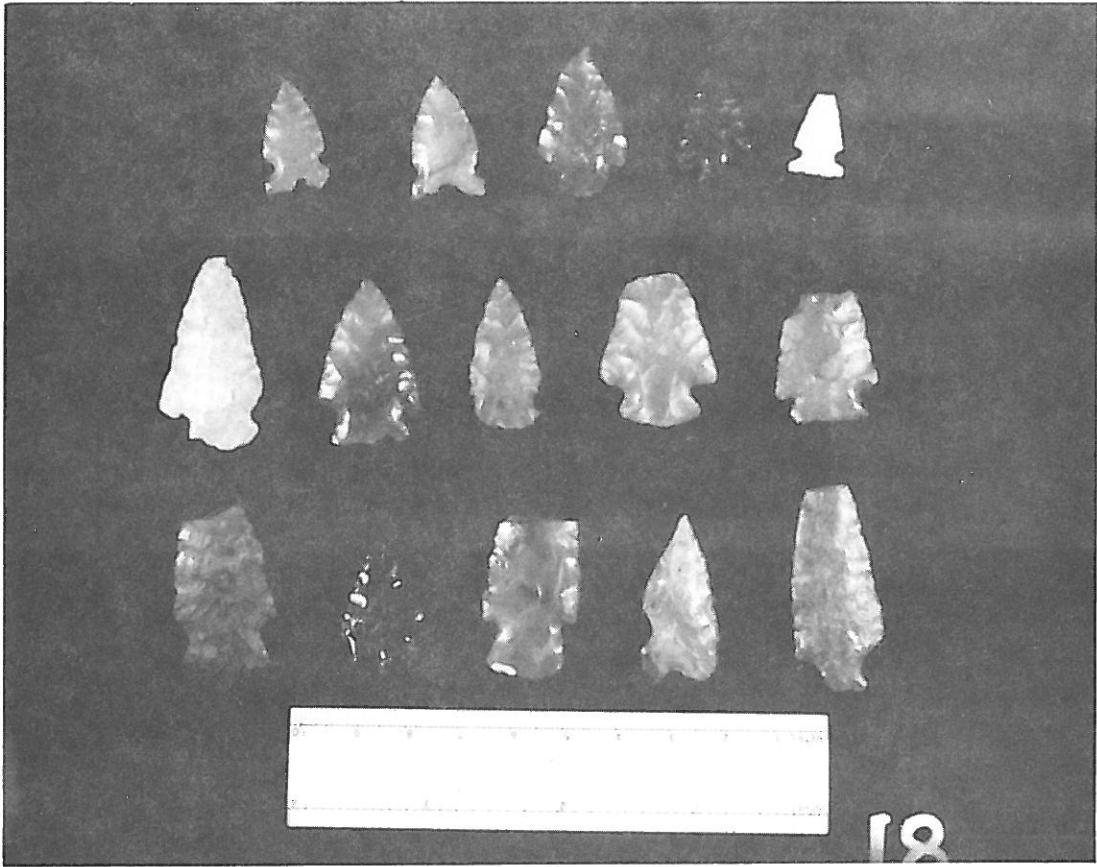


PLATE 6.

Artifacts from 48FR118, Iverson Collection.



PLATE 7.

Stone Circle, 48FR125.

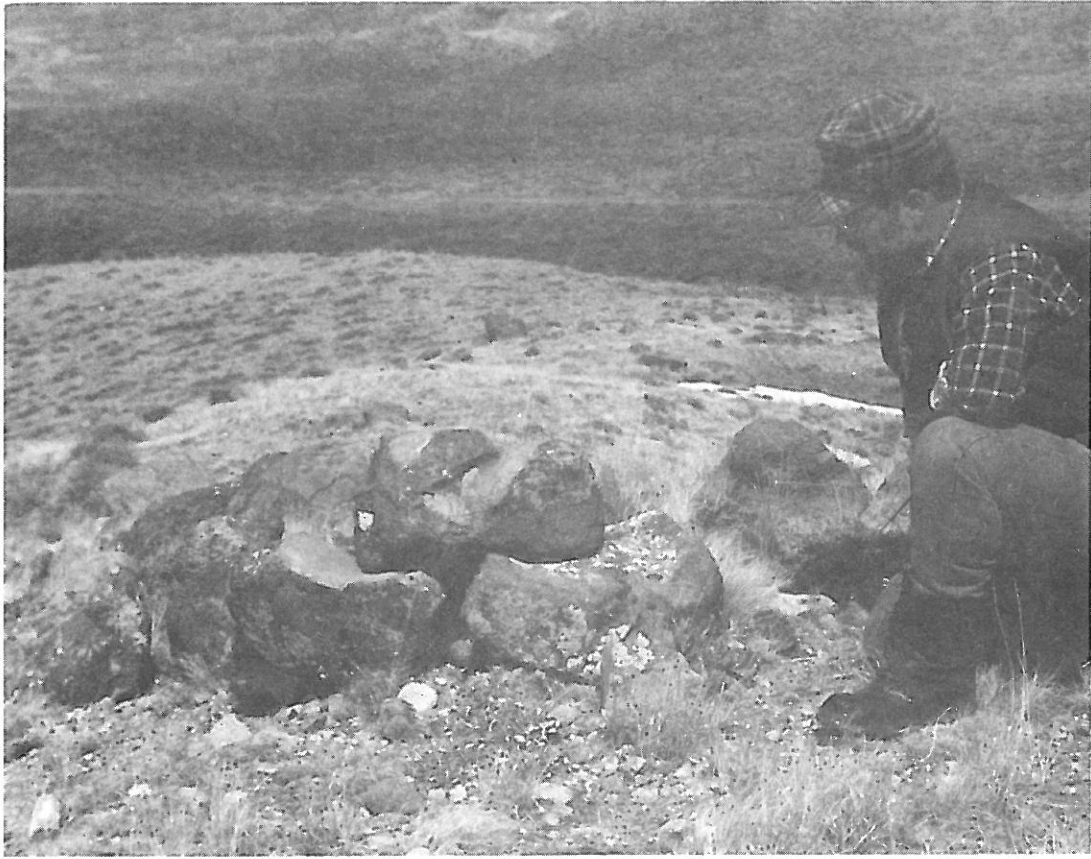


PLATE 8.

Stone Cairn, 48FR125.

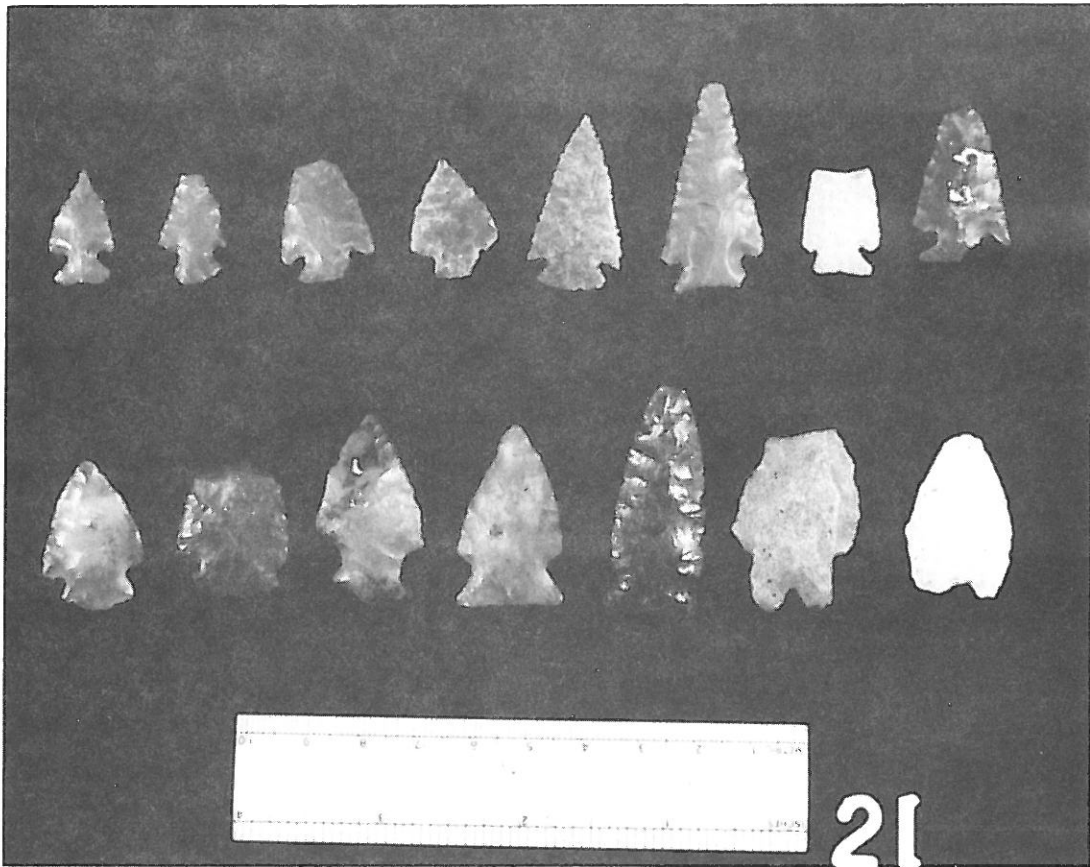


PLATE 9.

Artifacts from 48FR125, Iverson Collection.

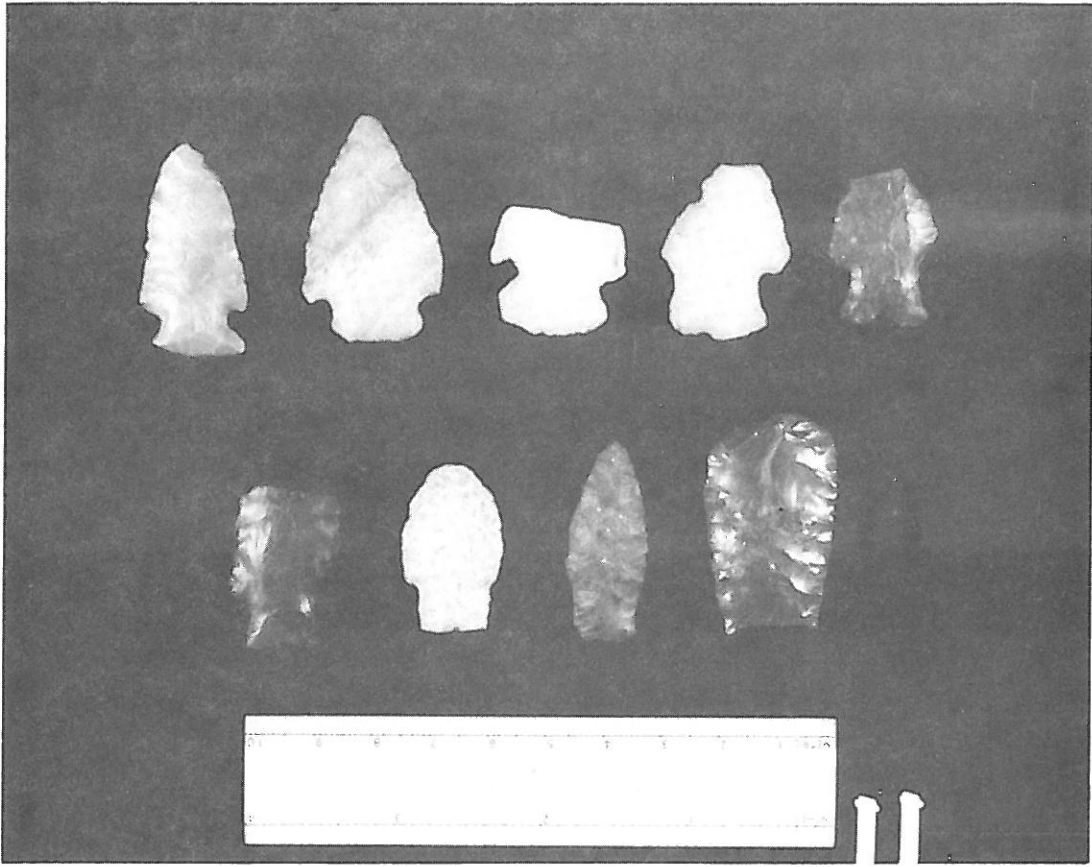


PLATE 10.

Artifacts from 48FR126, Iverson Collection.

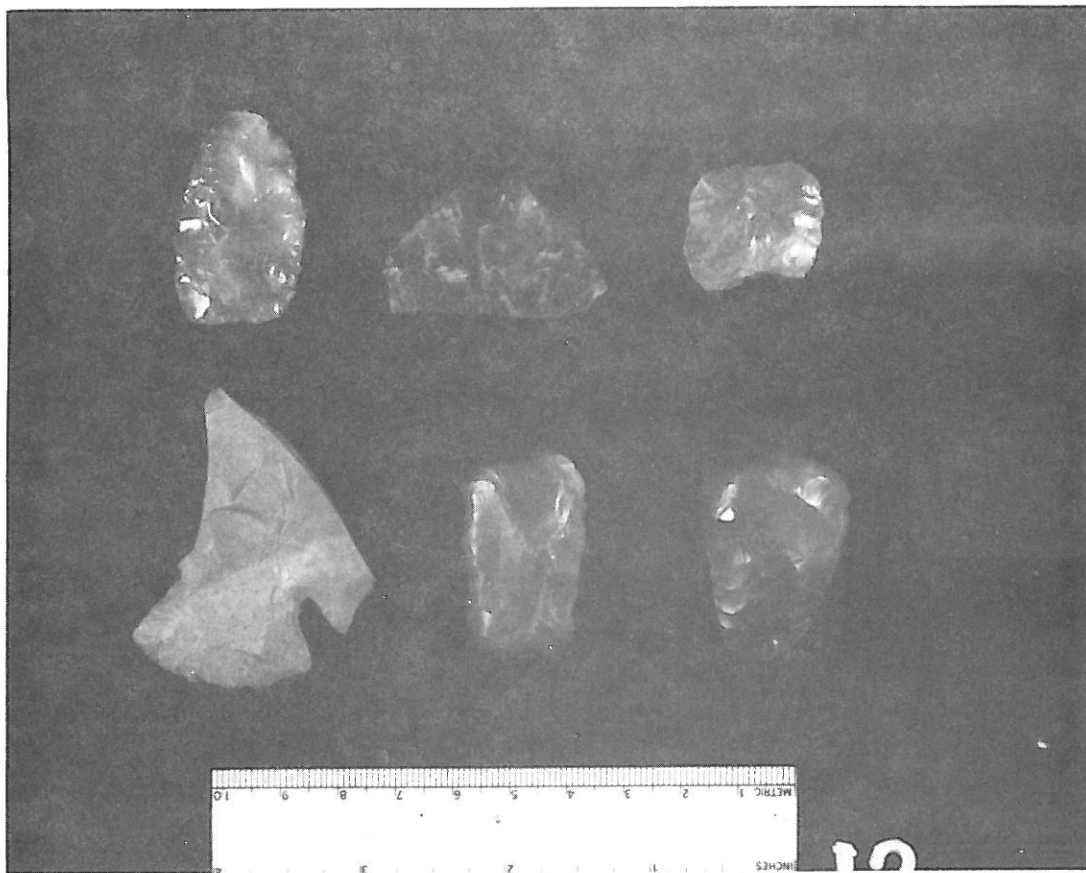


PLATE 11.

Artifacts from 48FR126, Iverson Collection.

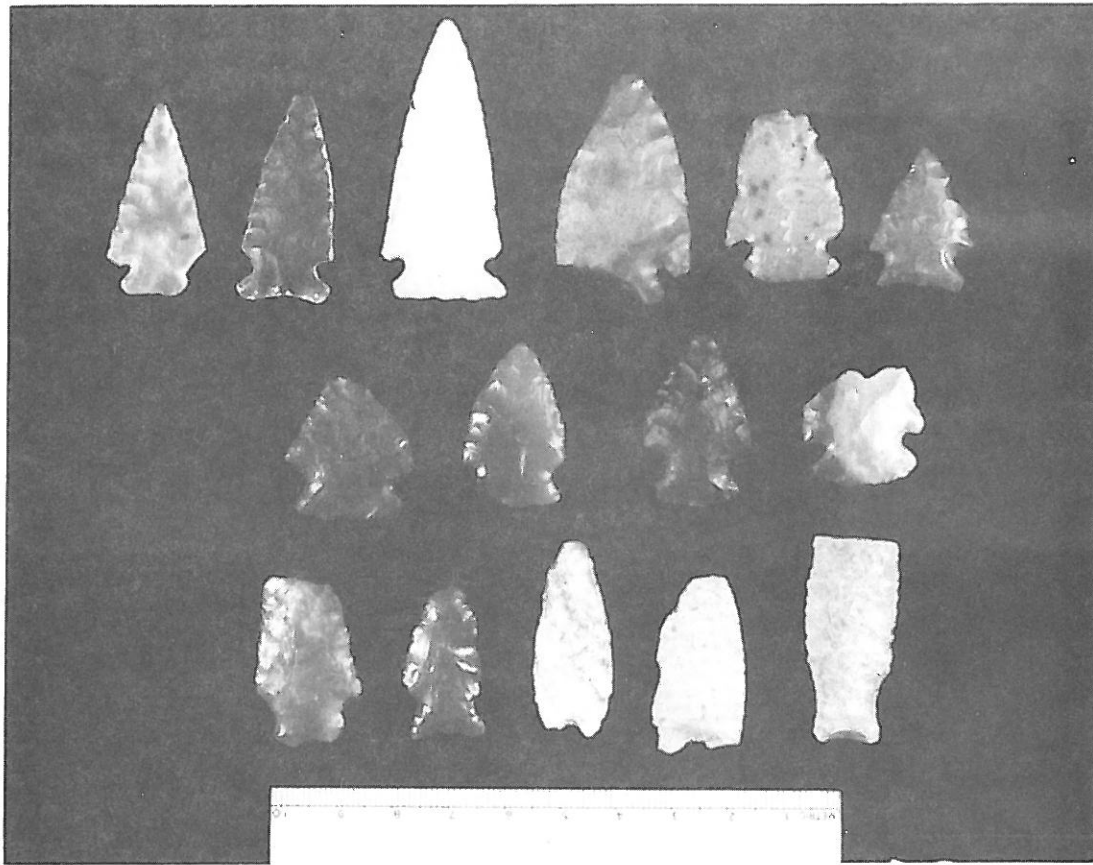


PLATE 12.

Artifacts from 48FR131, Iverson Collection.

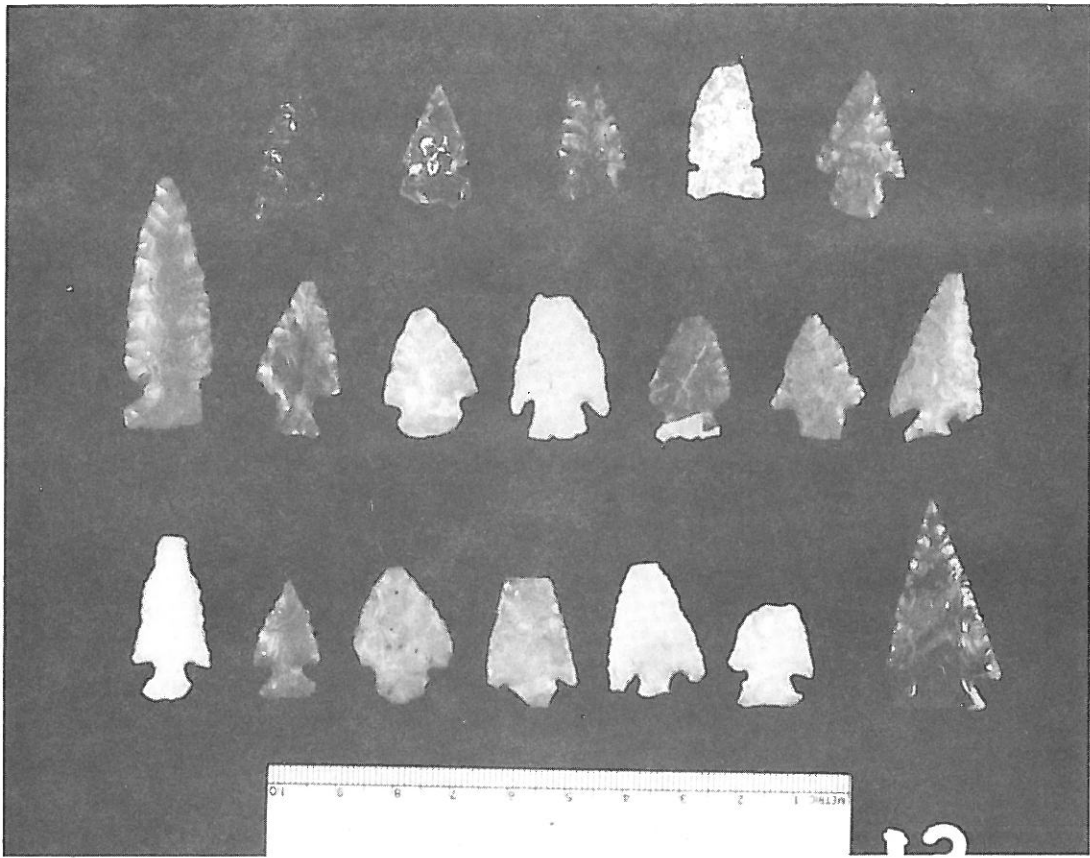


PLATE 13.

Artifacts from 48FR131, Iverson Collection.

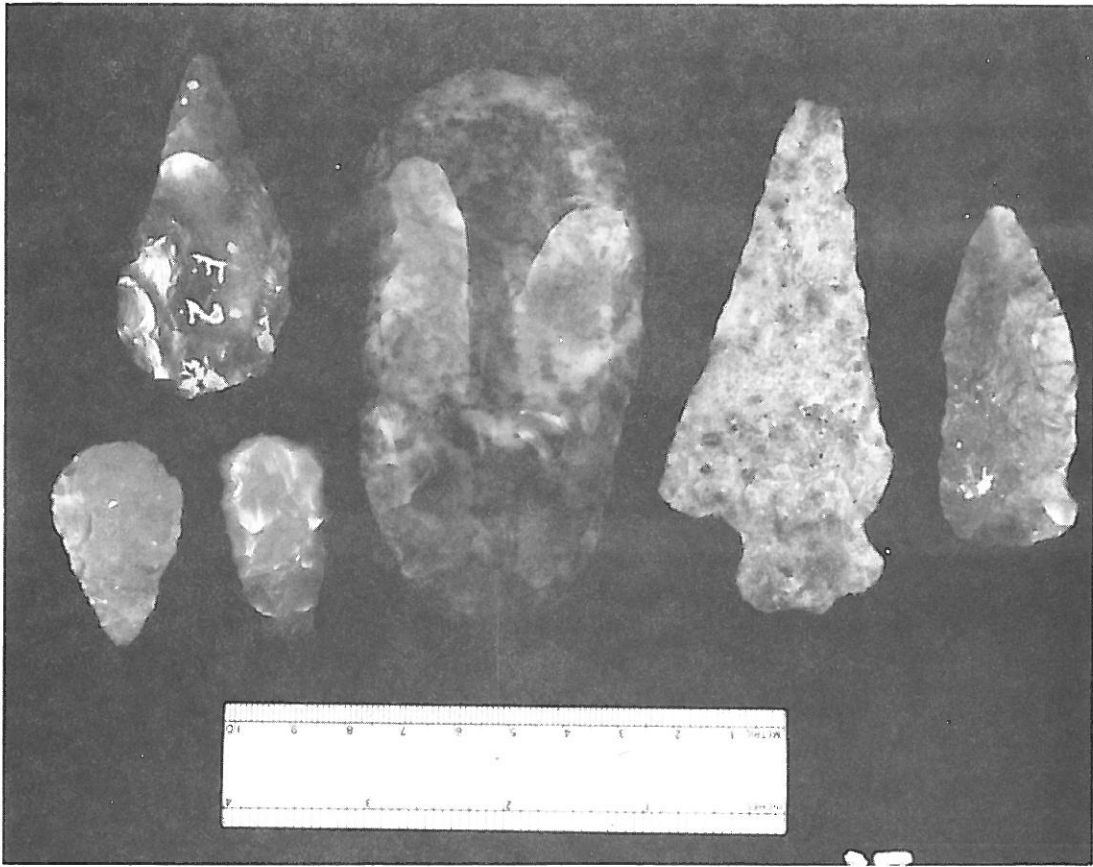


PLATE 14.

Artifacts from 48FR131, Iverson Collection.

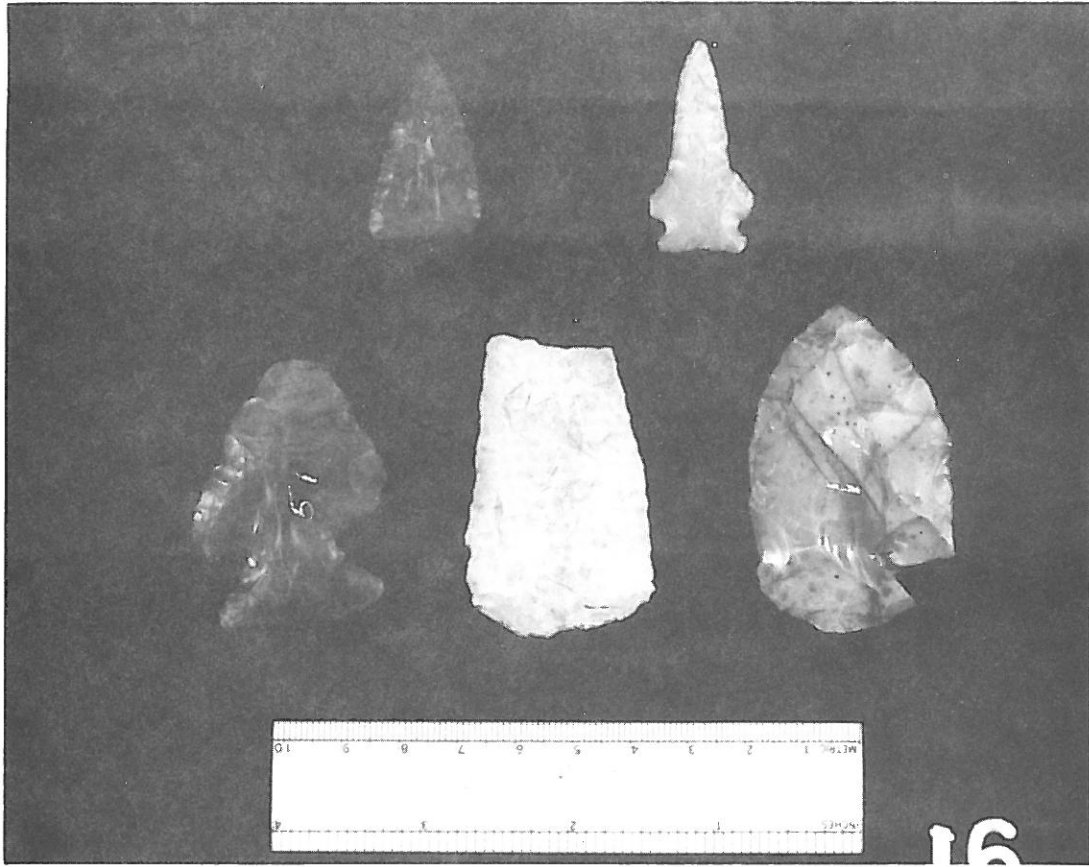
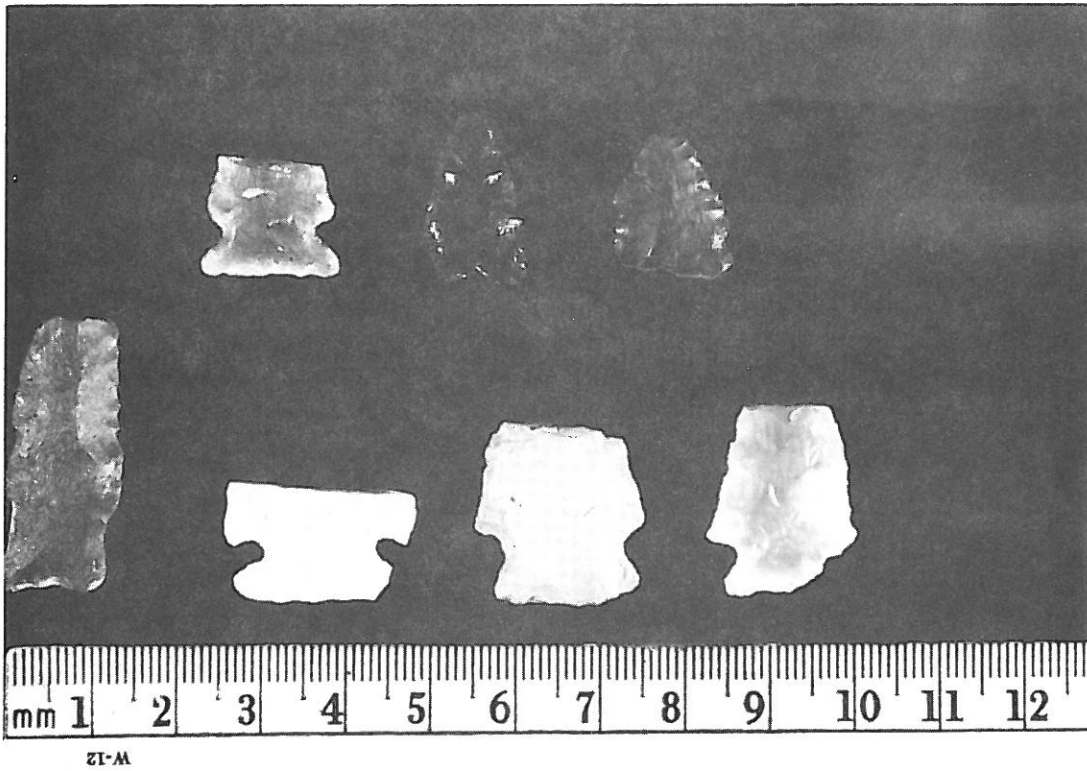


PLATE 15.

Artifacts from 48FR131, Iverson Collection.



| ZT . | TT . | OT . | 6 . | 8 . |

PLATE 16.

Artifacts from 48FR132, University of Wyoming
Collection.

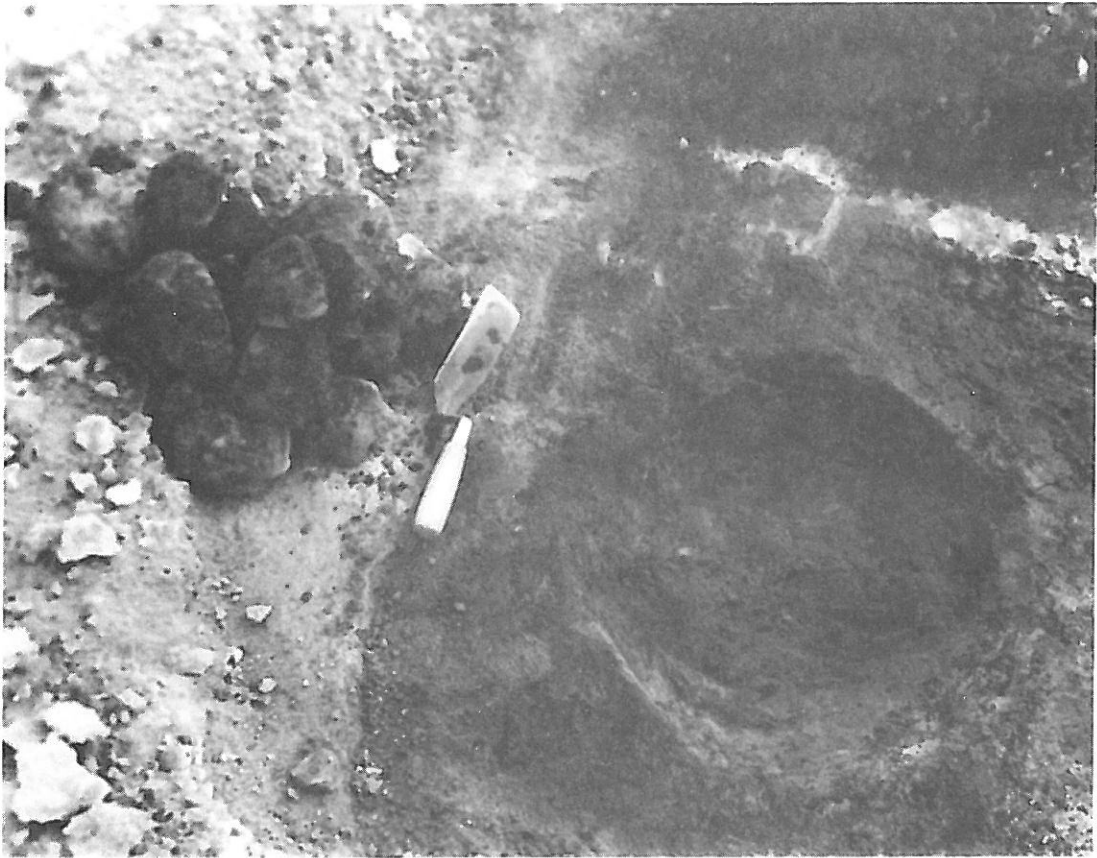


PLATE 17.

Firehearth, 48FR132.

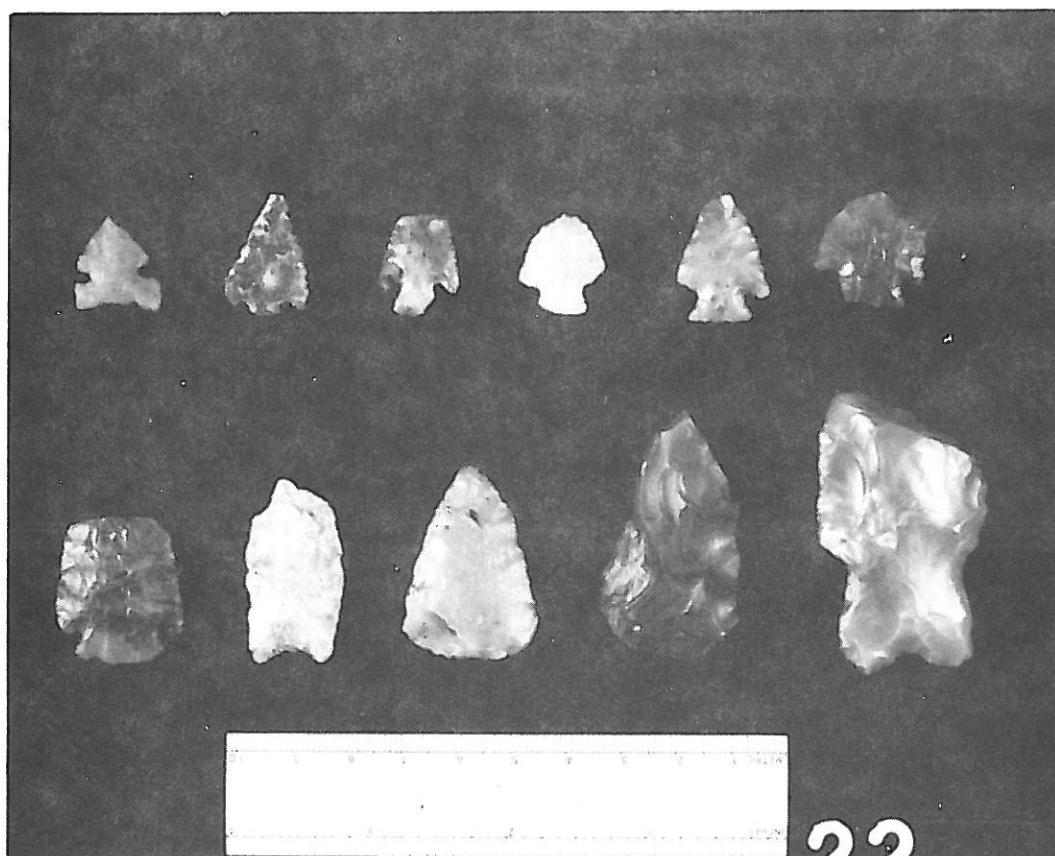


PLATE 18.

Artifacts near 48FR134, Iverson Collection.

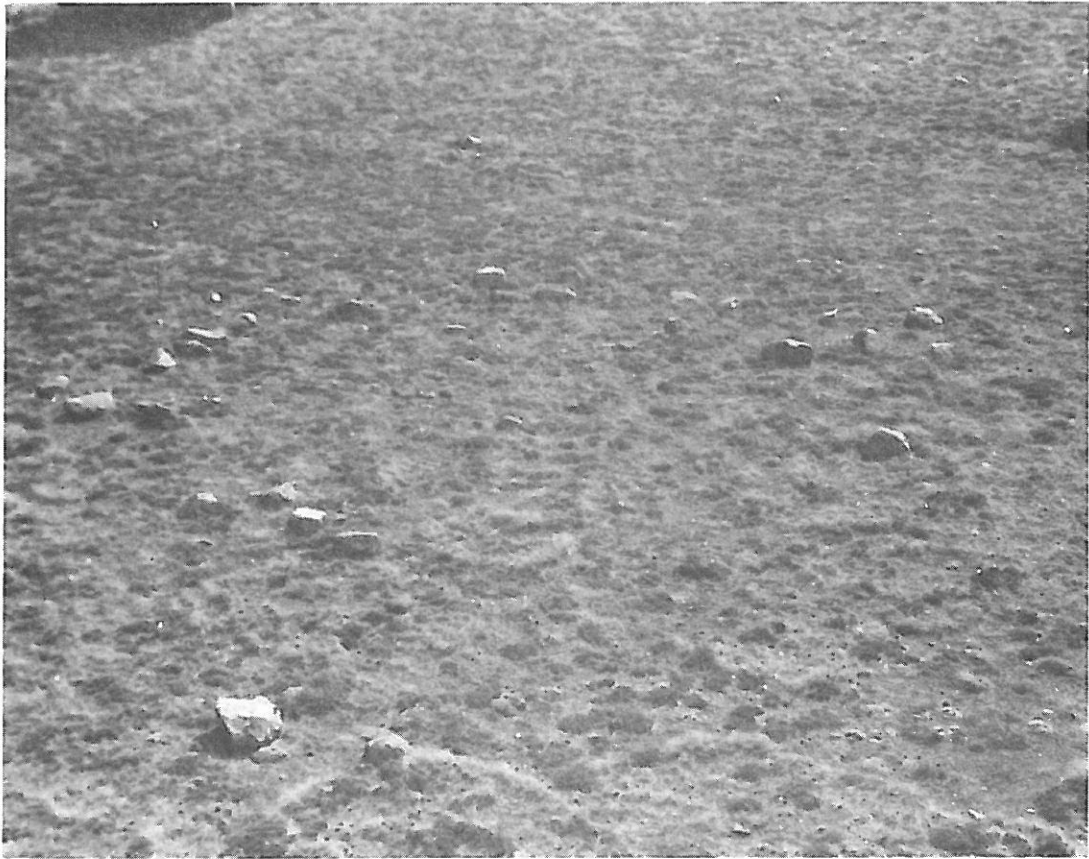


PLATE 19.

Stone Circle, 48FR134.



PLATE 20.

Firehearth, 48FR134, before excavation.



PLATE 21.

Firehearth, 48FR134, after excavation.

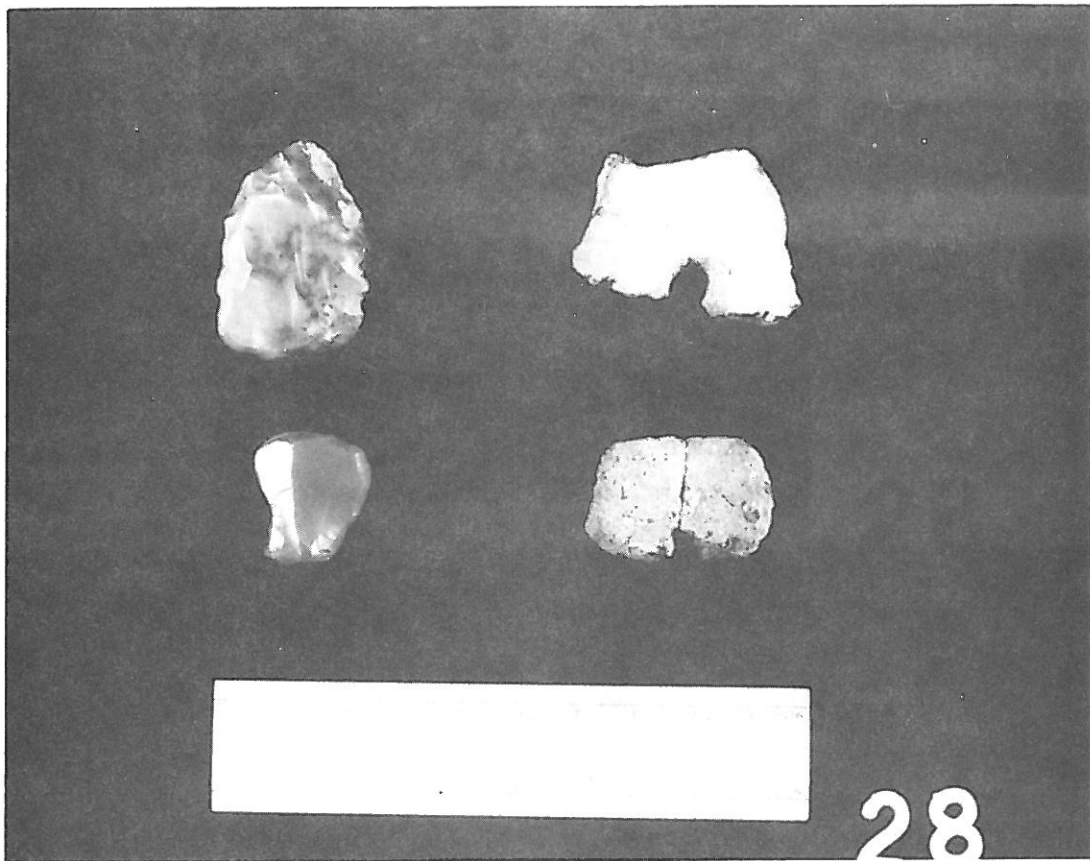


PLATE 22.

Artifacts and pottery from 48FR135, Morgan Collection.

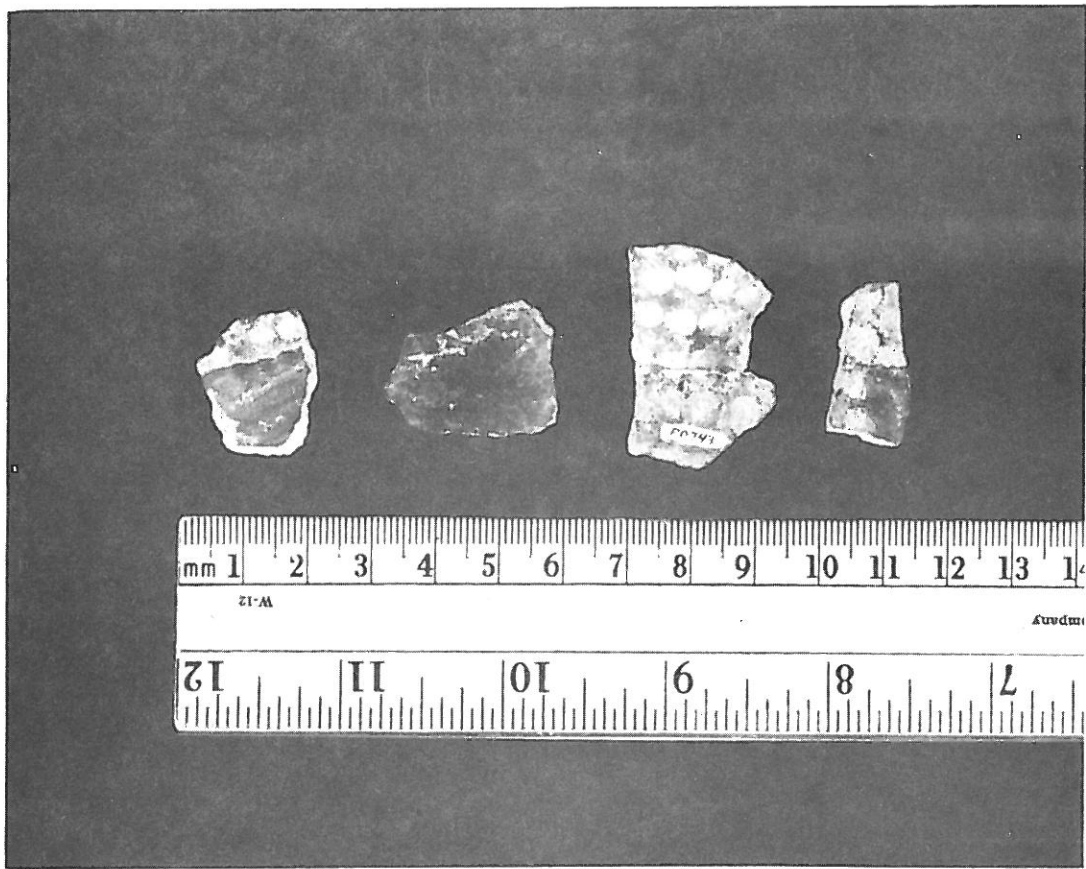


PLATE 23.

Artifacts and pottery from 48FR135, Morgan Collection.



PLATE 24.

Stone Circle, 48FR135.



PLATE 25.

Stone Circle, 48FR135.

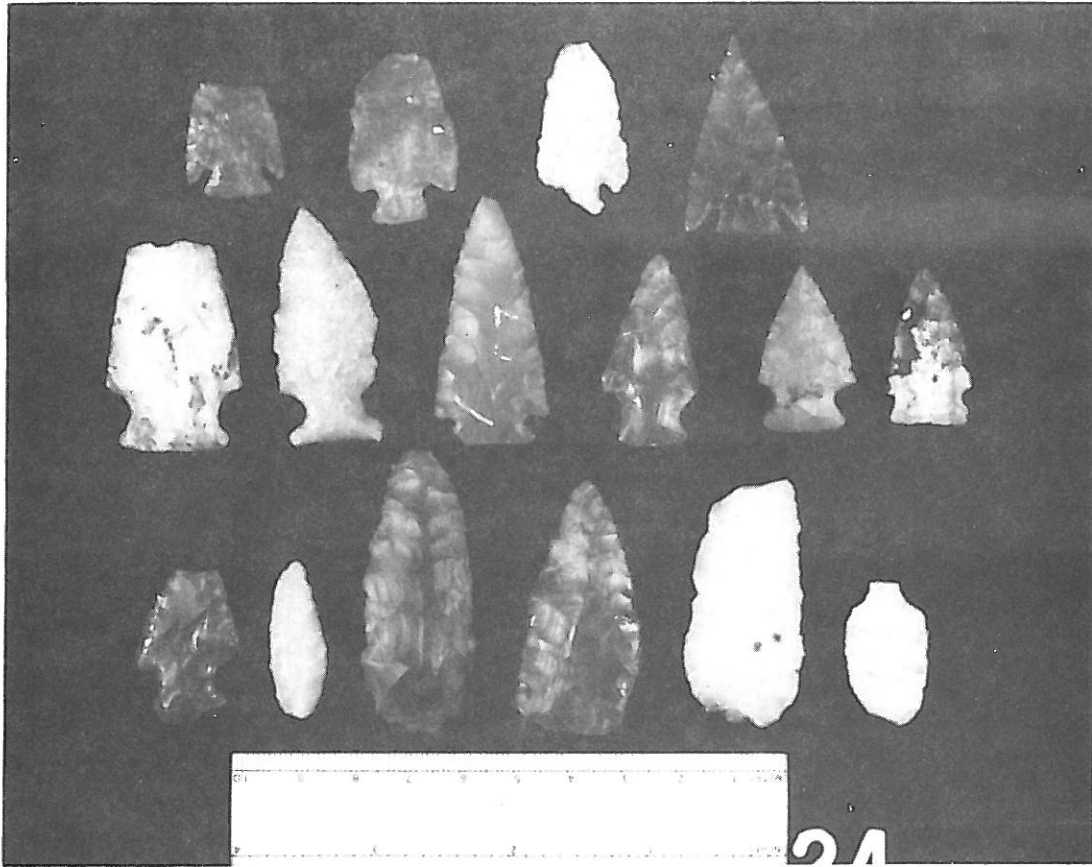


PLATE 26.

Artifacts near 48FR136, Iverson Collection.



PLATE 27.

Stone Circles, 48FR136.

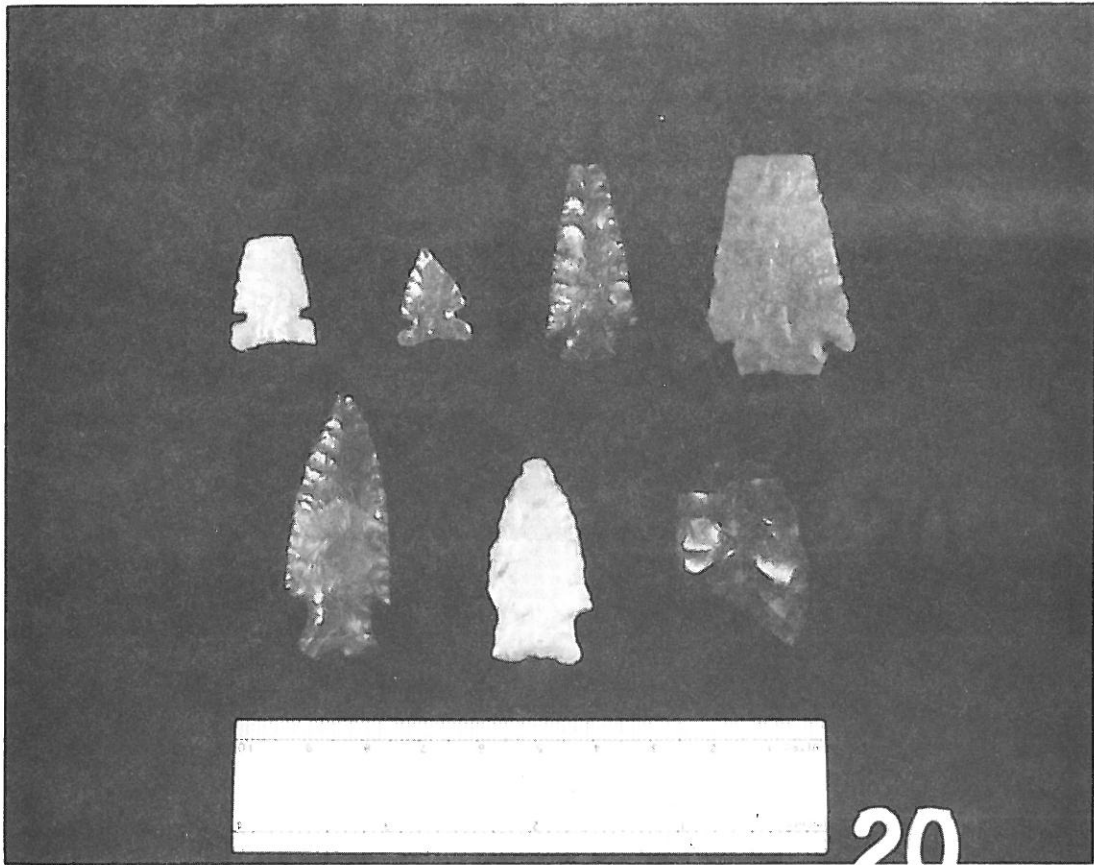


PLATE 28.

Artifacts from 48FR137, Iverson Collection.



PLATE 29.

Artifacts from 48FR142, Morgan Collection.

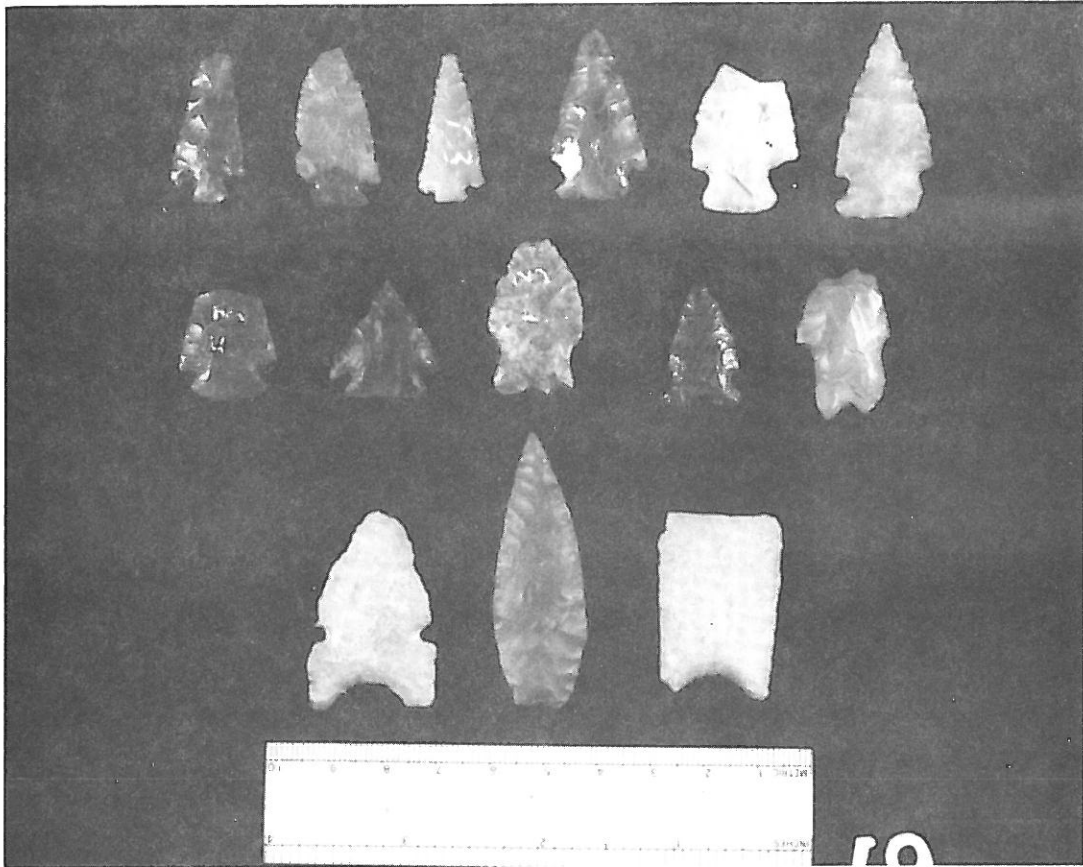


PLATE 30.

Artifacts from 48FR143, Iverson Collection.

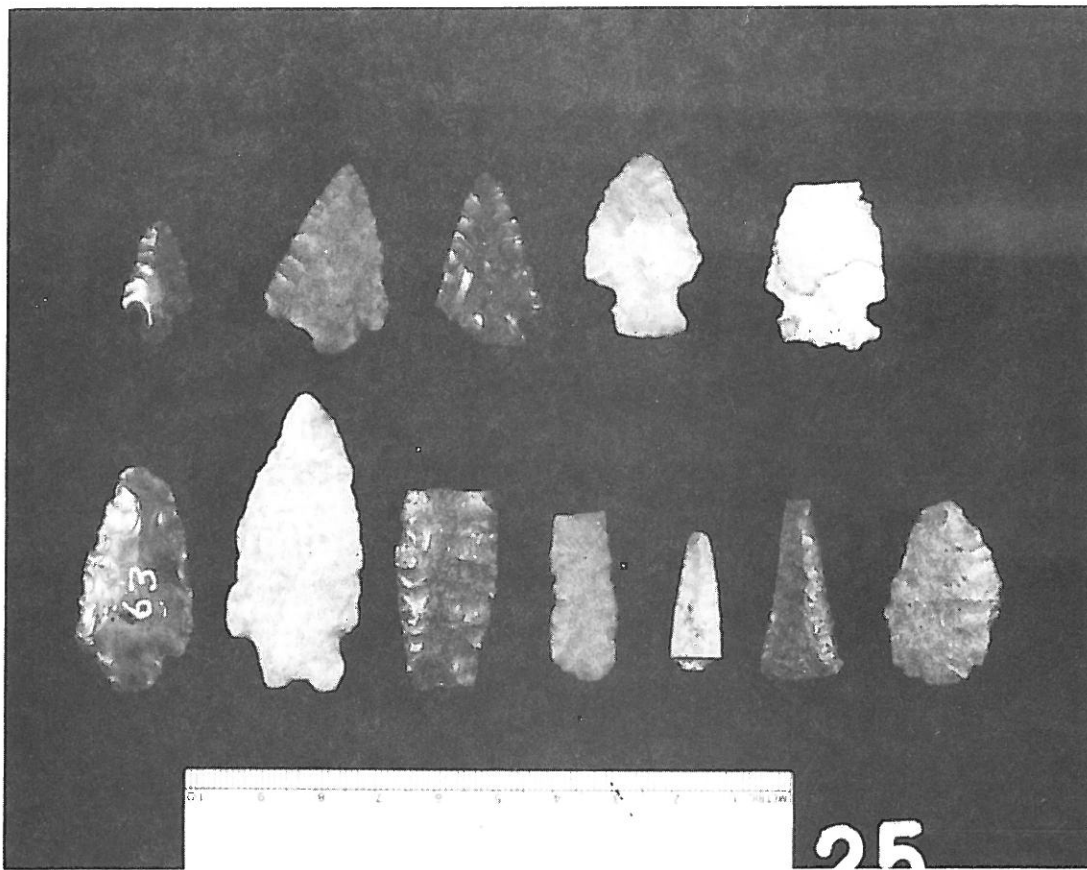


PLATE 31.

Artifacts from 48FR144, Iverson Collection.

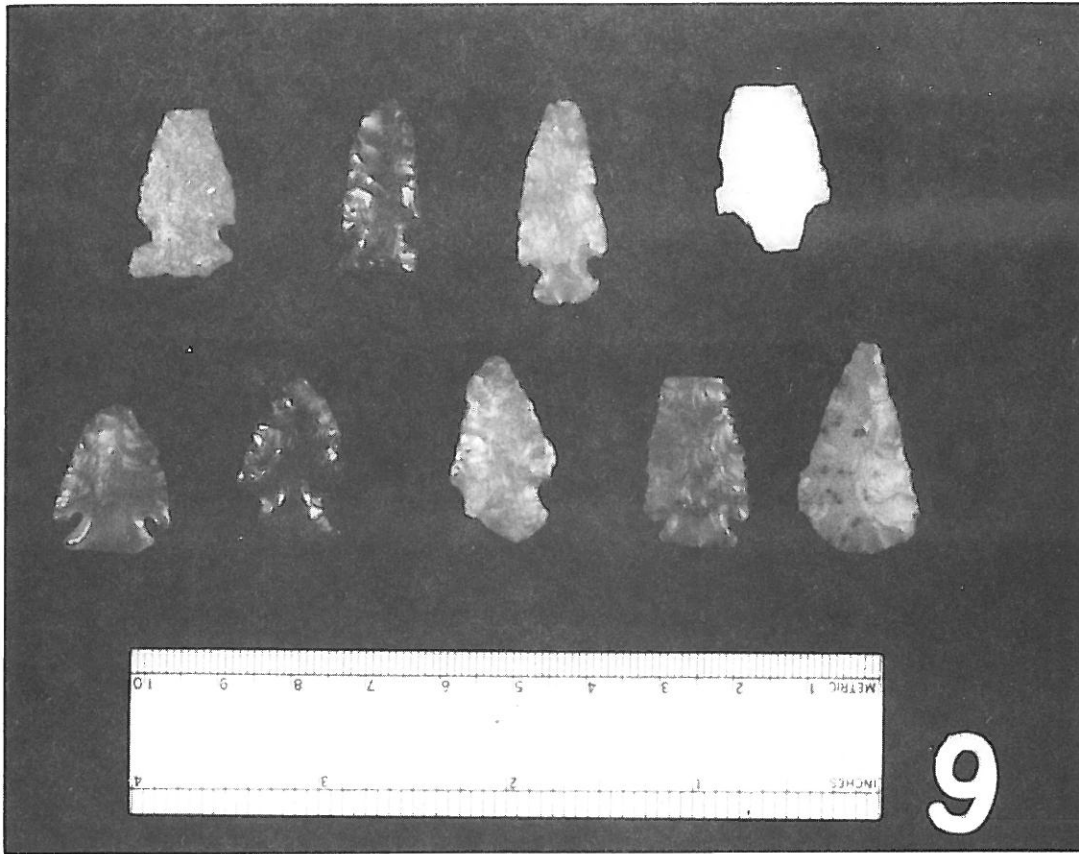


Plate 32.

Artifacts from 48FR146, Iverson Collection.

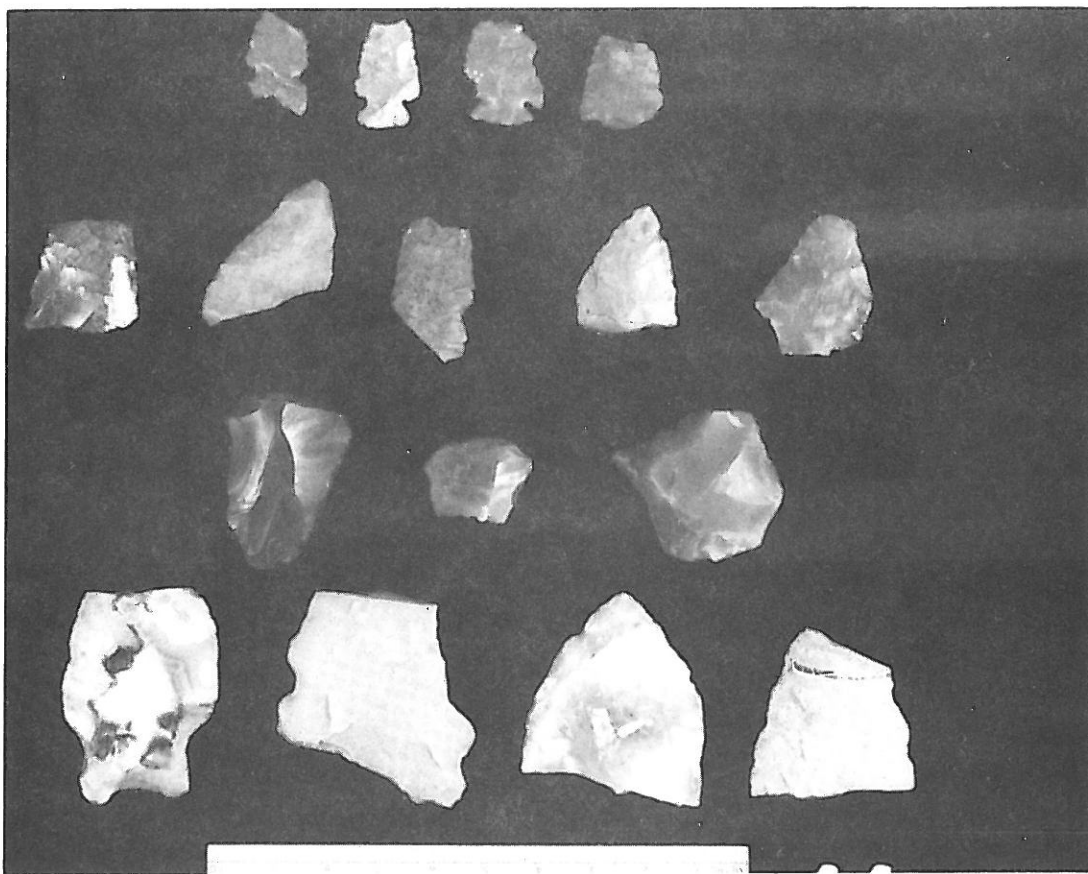


PLATE 33.

Artifacts from 48FR146, Pinner Collection.



PLATE 34.

Artifacts from 48FR146, Iverson Collection.

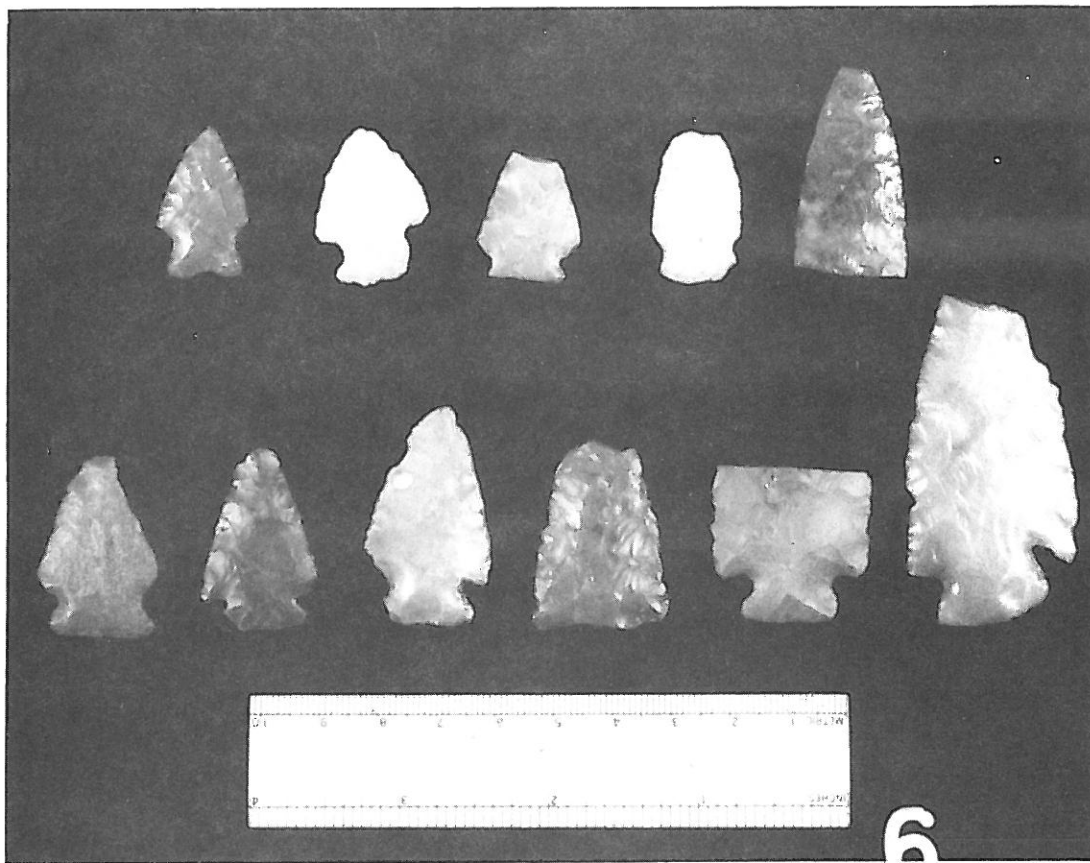


PLATE 35.

Artifacts from 48FR146, Iverson Collection.



PLATE 36.

Artifacts from 48FR146, Iverson Collection.

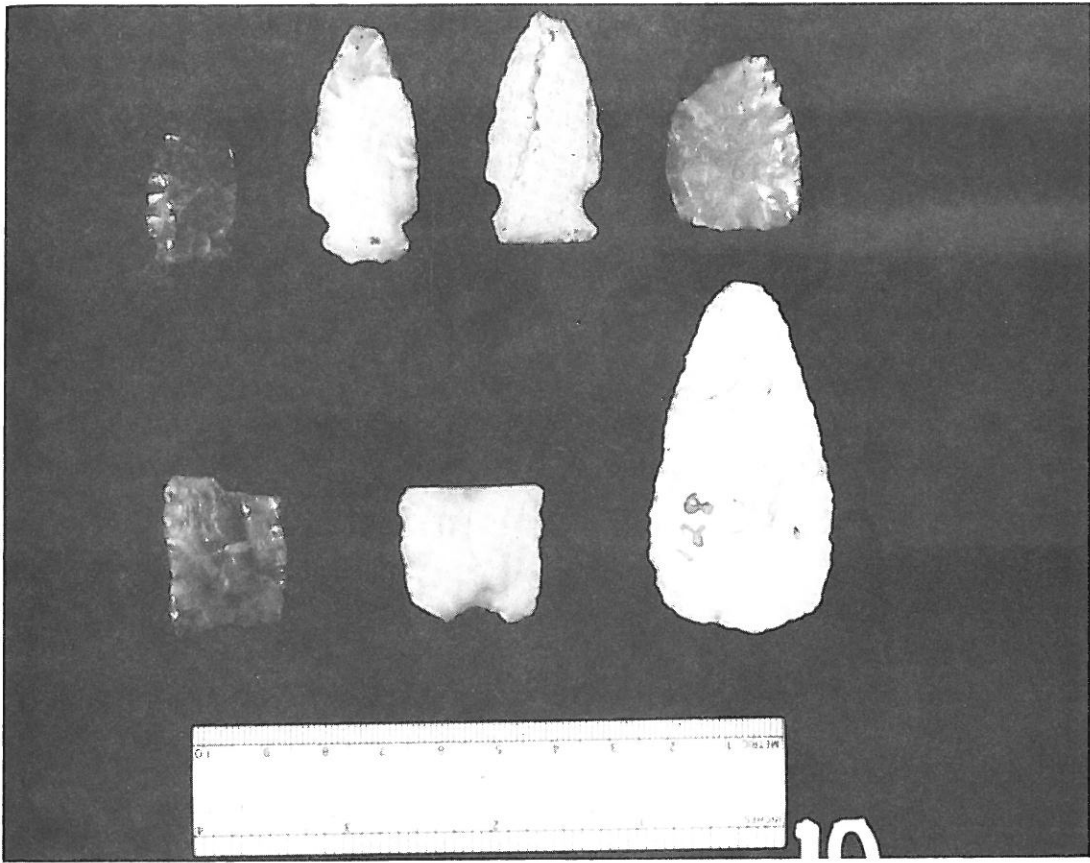


PLATE 37.

Artifacts from 48FR146, Iverson Collection.

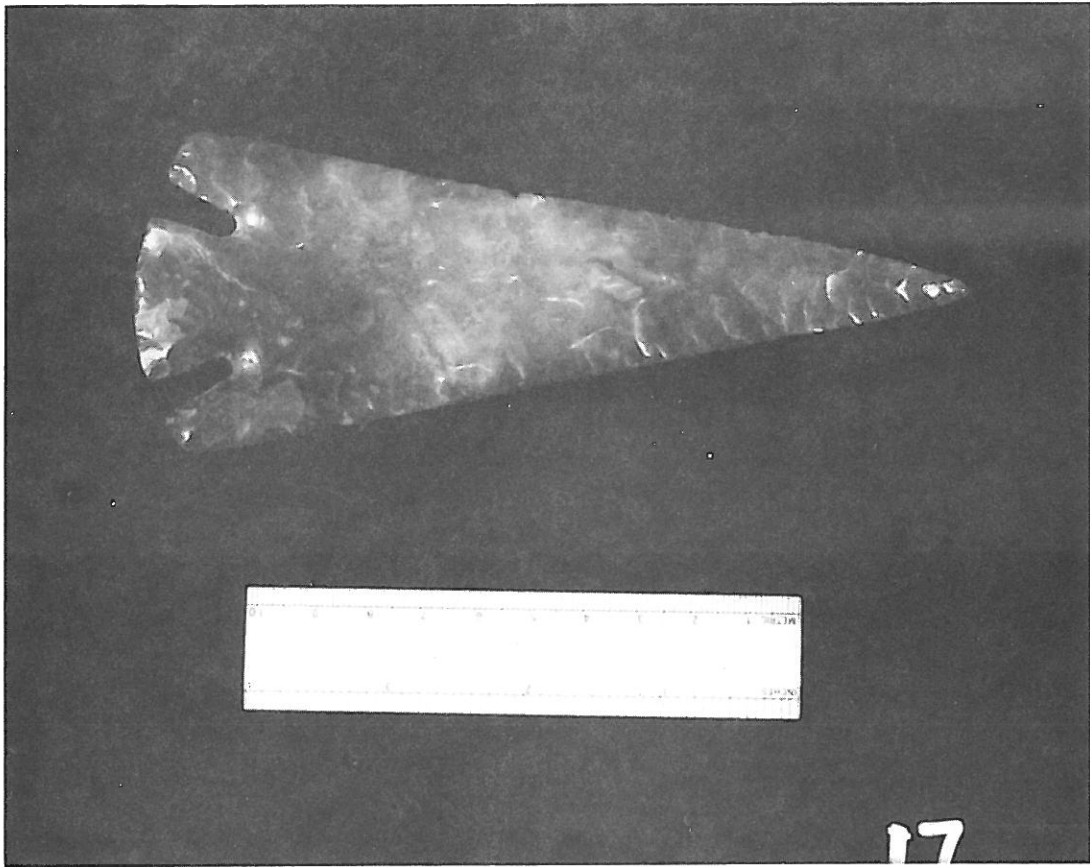


PLATE 38

Ceremonial Blade from 48FR146, Iverson
Collection.

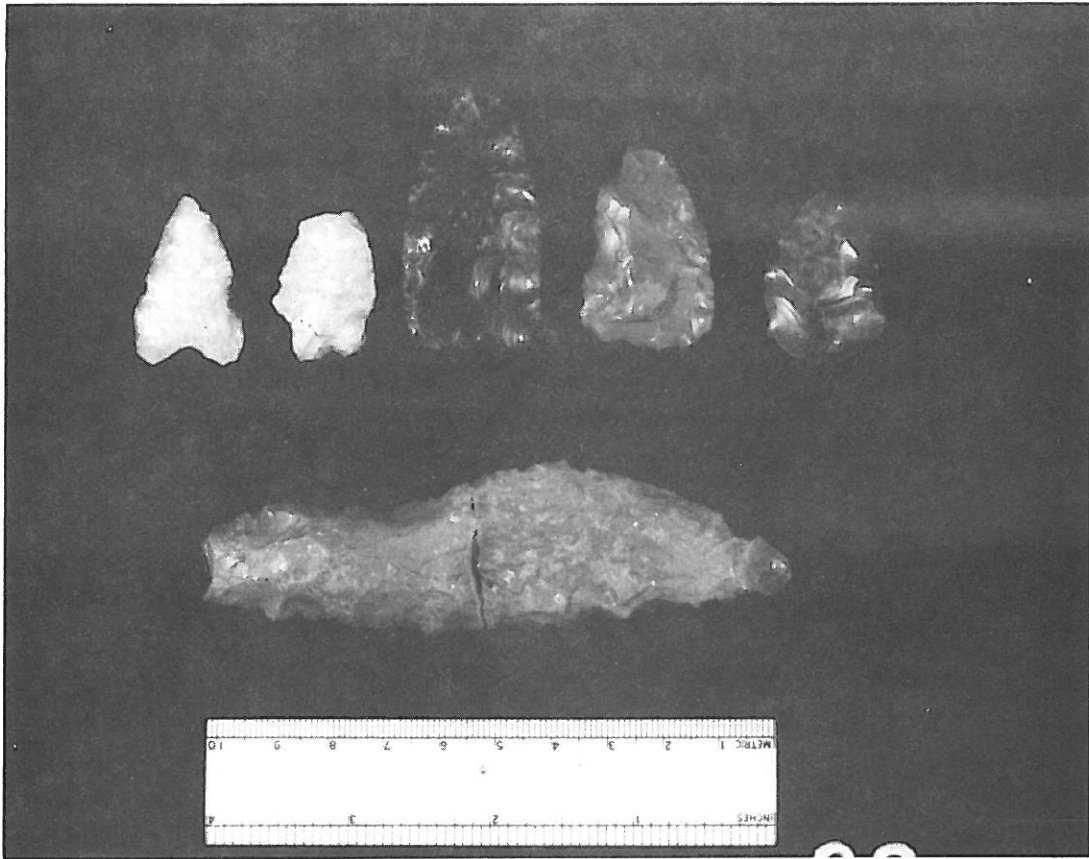


PLATE 39.

Artifacts from 48NA102, Iverson Collection.



PLATE 40.

Stone Circle, 48NA102.