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Archaeological Testing of Site 41PK69
Polk County, Texas

By
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Texas
State Department of Highways and Public Transportation
Highway Design Division
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ABSTRACT

Testing to determine eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places and to determine site depth, cultural context, and archaeological significance was undertaken in August, 1983, of Site 41PK69, on County Road 116 in Polk County. The site is a deep, sand terrace site on Rocky Creek and contains cultural material from the Archaic and Late Prehistoric Periods of East Texas.

Testing shows the site to have at least two separate cultural zones. The lower Archaic zone is typified by dart points and lithic resources. The upper Late Prehistoric zone is typified by arrowpoints, sand-tempered pottery and a **Gahagan** biface. Also recovered within the Late Prehistoric zone was a single glass bead similar to others found within Historic Indian sites.

Evidence from the testing demonstrates that sufficient materials are present and sufficient separation of cultural deposits exists to warrant further investigations.

Introduction

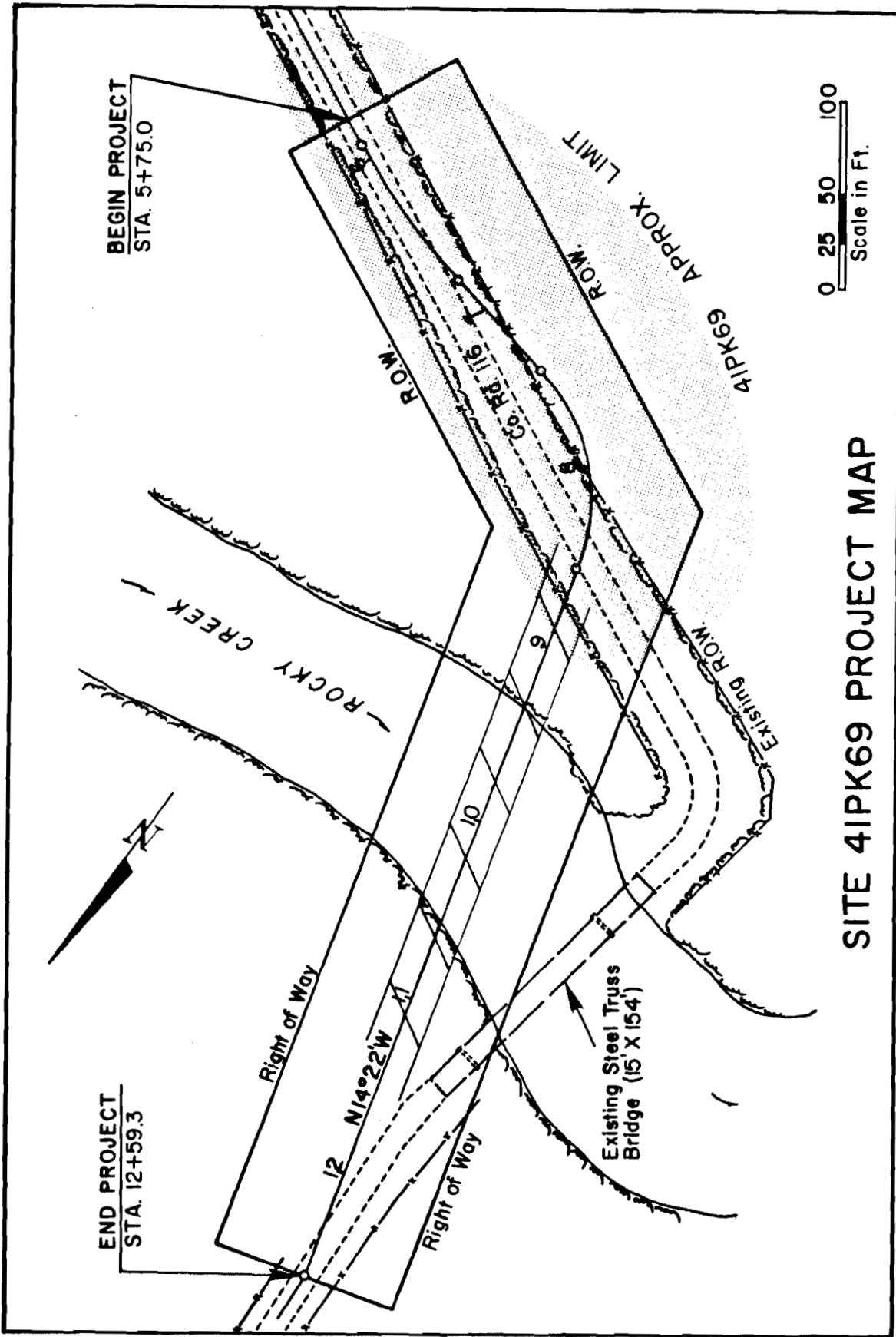
Archaeological Site 41PK69 was reported in September, 1982, by a member of the State Department of Highways and Public Transportation (SDHPT) Archaeology Section and was recommended for testing. Testing was conducted by two members of the SDHPT Archaeology Section and SDHPT personnel provided by the SDHPT Livingston residency office during the period of August 1 through August 12, 1983. Testing was performed in accordance with *Procedures for the Protection of Historic and Cultural Properties* (36 CFR, Part 800), procedures which are prescribed and endorsed by the Federal Highway Administration. The objective of the test was to determine eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places as prescribed by federal mandate and to determine the nature of the deposits and cultural contexts.

The site is located on the south bank and terrace of Rocky Creek on a sandy point of land that rises above Rocky Creek (Fig. 1). At the present time Rocky Creek is inundated by water from Lake Livingston. The site at the time of discovery was evident in the road cut of County Road 116 which follows the sandy ridge. Archaeological evidence consisted of scattered flakes and cores in the existing road cut.

The SDHPT project to affect the site is a proposed bridge replacement at the Rocky Creek crossing of County Road 116. It is an off-system, federal aid rehabilitation and replacement project, funded for Polk County by the Federal Highway Administration, and entails the construction of a new bridge at a new location with new approaches to the bridge (Fig. 2).

The bridge to be replaced was completed in 1926 as a one-lane, steel truss structure, totaling 154 feet in length. This bridge is one of seventeen similar truss bridges located within the area. The existing bridge structure does not meet the criteria for inclusion within the National Register of Historic Places. The replacement bridge will have 40-foot concrete girder spans and a clear roadway of 28 feet.

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SITE 41PK69 PROJECT MAP

FIGURE 2. Site 41PK69 in relation to new bridge construction.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

Initial archaeological investigations around Lake Livingston were first conducted by personnel of the Texas Archeological Salvage Project as early as 1963. Subsequent testing and excavations were reported by McClurken in 1968 (McClurken 1968). Additional investigations have been conducted at Lake Conroe (Shafer 1968) and by the SDHPT at the Strawberry Hill Site in San Jacinto County (Keller and Weir 1979). Other excavations have been conducted to the north and west, and in the southern coastal regions. These investigations have some bearing on the Lake Livingston region, but little research actually has been conducted in the immediate vicinity. Archaeological testing by the SDHPT in 1973 and 1975 presented no new evidence that would aid in any definitive observations concerning the region (John E. Keller, personal communication, 1983).

Principally on the basis of six excavations within the confines of the then-proposed Lake Livingston Reservoir, McClurken was able to establish that there had been Archaic and Lake Prehistoric cultures present within the region for approximately 2000 years. The culture group was judged to be the Atakapans primarily on the basis of an apparent continual (implying stable) use of sandy paste pottery and no evidence of a shift in entire populations of Atakapans which might have displaced a previous group. Also noted was a strong Caddoan influence during the Late Prehistoric Period. With the influx of Caddoan pottery there was the use of contracting-stem arrowpoints. Straight-stem arrowpoints were felt to have arrived slightly earlier. The Archaic occupation was a southern manifestation of the La Harpe Aspect (McClurken 1968).

Excavations at the Strawberry Hill Site (Keller and Weir 1979) provided many additional artifacts from the region for study, leading to the hypothesis of a probably sequential separation of Gary Variety **I**, a dart point, to Gary Variety **III**, a possible dart point and possible predecessor of the various arrowpoint varieties.

SITE DESCRIPTION

As previously stated, Site 41PK69 is located on a sandy point that rises above Rocky Creek (Fig. 3). The ridge is almost perpendicular to the drainage formed by Rocky Creek and is unique in the area. The site is presently timber covered with second- or third-growth pines; also present are sweetgum and oaks. Very little cultural material was evident on the surface where only occasional flakes were observed in gopher mounds. More material was observed in the cut made by County Road 116, where flakes and sherds were found.

The site appears to extend approximately 300 to 400 ft. along the road and is approximately 150 ft. wide (Fig. 2). The site area is presently being eroded by Rocky Creek, and the site continues to the bluff formed by the cut bank on the north. How much of the site has been lost to erosion is unknown.

The soils at the site consist of sands, gravels, and sandy clays. The sand deposits in the area of archaeological testing showed to be 1.3 to 1.5 meters in depth, with some gravels evident. Heavy gravel concentrations were first noted in Profiles 1 and 2 (Figs. 3 and 4). Gravels in the test units were approximately 1.3 meters deep. A sandy clay was noted to underbed the gravels in the road cut. The gravel zone was sparse in Test Units 3 and 4, where the sandy clay zone was encountered at 1.4 meters and 1.5 meters respectively. Soil probes indicated that the sand deposit was consistently deeper than 1.3 meters over the site area south of the road.

Disturbances to the soil deposits have occurred by timbering and rodent activities, but generally the soil is intact with only minor disturbances. Rodent burrows were evident in all test units, and a recently burned stump was evident in Test Unit 2. There appears to be no evidence of plowing.

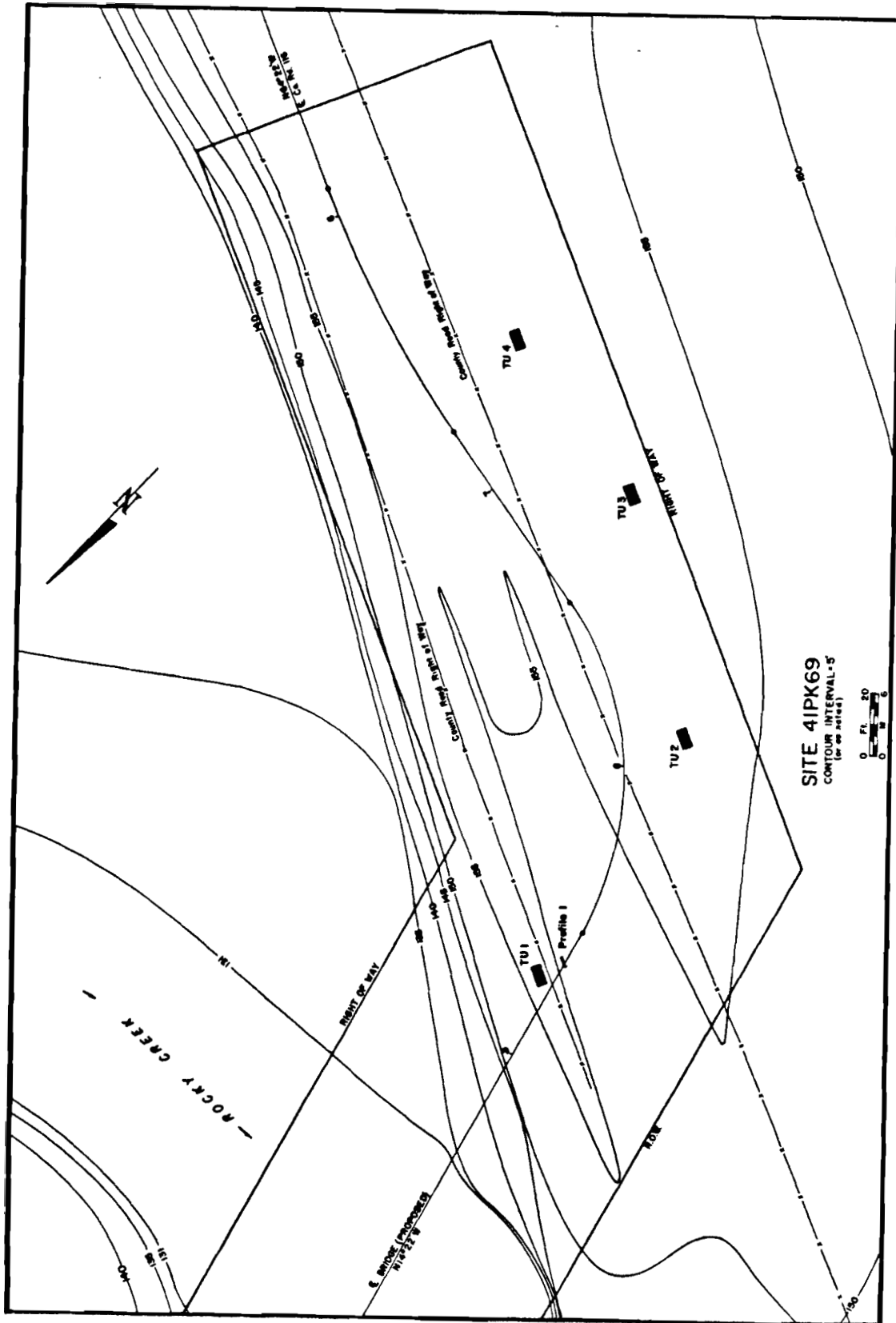


FIGURE 3. Topographic map of site showing excavation units.

EAST PROFILE T.U. 2 SITE 41PK69

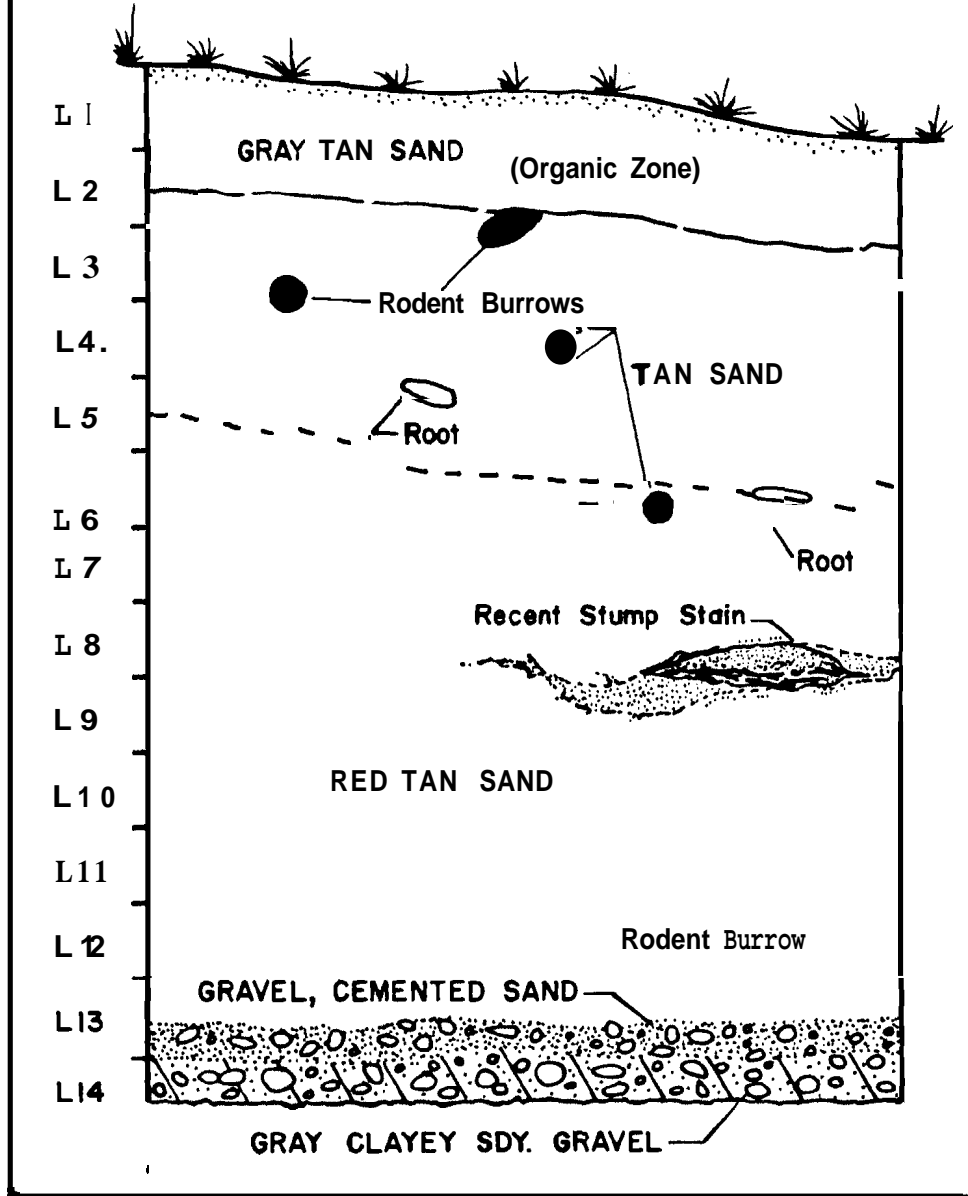


FIGURE 4. Profile of east wall of Test Unit 2.

SOIL MORPHOLOGY

The soils are loose sands with very little clay content. The sand zones range from a gray organic upper zone to a creamy tan zone above the basal gravel or clay. Mottling of iron oxide is present above the clay, and clay content does increase slightly above the gravel.

Typical soil zones encountered by testing are as follows (Fig. 4):

- Zone 1: Generally 0 to 18 cm deep with increased depths in Test Units 3 and 4. Sand zone with high organic content, typically gray tan in color.
- Zone 2: Generally 18 to 60 cm deep with increased depth in Test Unit 3. Sand zone typically tan in color. Occasional lenses of scattered gravels. Zone appears to contain a Late Prehistoric cultural component.
- Zone 3: Generally 60 to 110 cm deep with slight variation. Sand zone with some gravels, typically creamy tan to red tan in color. Zone appears to contain an Archaic cultural component.
- Zone 4: Generally 110 to 135 cm deep with a slight variation. This zone is a slightly cemented sand with scattered gravels. The typical color is a light tan to creamy tan sand with mottling of iron oxides at approximately 133 cm. This zone overlies either a gravel zone or a sandy clay zone. Zone appears to contain an Archaic cultural component.

Zone 5: Generally 135 to 140 cm deep with variations. This is a gravel zone and is 20 to 30 cm thick as seen in the road cut. This zone is present only in Test Units 1 and 2 in the western portion of the site. Zone contains Archaic material.

Zone 6: Generally 140 to 150 cm deep. This is a sandy clay zone with gravels. Thickness of the zone is unknown. Occasional flint flakes are encountered in this gray-tan zone.

PROCEDURES

Archaeological testing of Site 41PK69 consisted of hand-excavated test units, surface observations, and soil probe testing. Four 1 by 2 meter units were excavated. Test Unit 1 was excavated to the north of County Road 116 in an area of observed cultural material (Fig. 3). A profile (Profile 1) was obtained from the road cut in that area in order to predetermine soil zones to be encountered. Test Units 2, 3, and 4 were placed on the south side of County Road 116 along several hundred feet of the project. This placement was arranged to determine the site's extent and the nature of the deposits. Soil probes were utilized to determine the areas in which the soil deposits were the deepest.

The excavated soil deposits were screened through 1/4 inch hardware cloth. All artifacts were retained and bagged according to unit and level. Excavation levels were arbitrary 10 cm levels derived from the present ground surface. Actual excavation was conducted with shovels and the use of trowels and hoes for cleaning the floors.

ARTIFACTS

A total of 73 prehistoric artifacts and 2303 flint flakes was recovered during the test. Artifacts consisted of arrowpoints, dart points, bifaces, unifaces, an altered flake, hammerstones, a pitted stone, cores, and pottery. Two additional historic artifacts were recovered: a glass bead and a 22 caliber shell.

Projectile Points

Excavations produced a total of 14 arrowpoints, dart points, and fragments. All were manufactured from poor quality chert or petrified wood.

DART POINTS (4 specimens)

Dart points recovered varied considerably in outline and workmanship. All are straight- to expanding-stem forms.

Specimen A (Fig. 5)

This projectile point is complete although burned. The blade is 28.2 mm wide and asymmetrical in outline, and is 47.4 mm long. The blade edges are slightly convex in outline. The stem is straight and long in relation to width, being 15.1 mm long and 12.9 mm wide. The base is slightly convex. One barb is present. Overall workmanship is good and the point is from a good quality petrified wood. The specimen is Bulverde-like (Suhm and Jelks 1962). Provenience is Test Unit 2, Level 11.

Specimen B (Fig. 5)

This complete projectile point is crudely manufactured from petrified wood. The blade edges are roughly convex and 44.9 mm long, 20 mm wide, and 8.7 mm

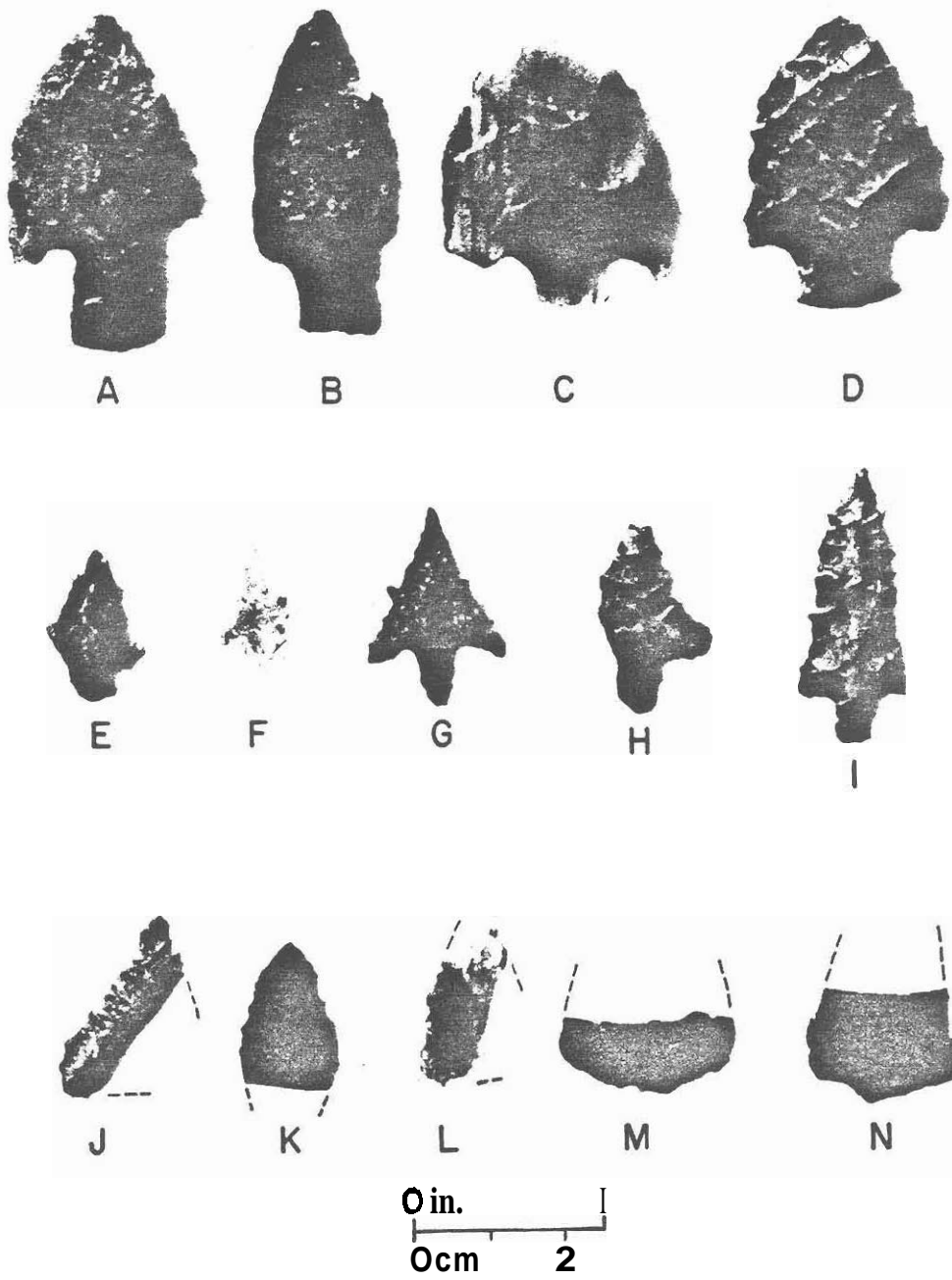


FIGURE 5. Projectile points.

thick. The point has weak shoulders and no barbs. The stem is asymmetrical with slightly recurved sides and an unmodified base. The specimen is tentatively assigned to the Kent type (Suhm and Jelks 1962). Provenience is Test Unit 2, Level 8.

Specimen C (Fig. 5)

This projectile point appears to have been a failure and exhibits retouch flaking only on the stem and barbs. The blade edges are convex in outline and the blade is thick (8.4 mm). Some cortex is evident on the lateral edges. The specimen exhibits strong shoulders and large thick barbs resulting from basal notching. The stem is short (6 mm long) and is 8.9 mm wide. The material is petrified wood. Provenience is Test Unit 2, Level 12.

Specimen D (Fig. 5)

This projectile point is complete and is the only recovered dart point manufactured from chert. The blade is slightly convex in outline and lacks retouch. Length of the specimen is 39.6 mm, and width is 27.8 mm. The blade is 8.4 mm thick. The stem is formed by corner notching and has expanding sides and a convex base. The stem is 12.1 mm wide and 9 mm long. Provenience is Test Unit 2, Level 8.

ARROWPOINTS (5 specimens)

Specimen E (Fig. 5)

This nearly complete arrowpoint was manufactured from flint and was completely bifaced. The blade is roughly triangular with some serration on the lateral edges. The barbs are slightly upturned. Overall length of the specimen is 21.7 mm, with a blade width of 15.4 mm. The stem is short and has a convex base. Stem width is 6.6 mm, and stem length is 2.8 mm. Workmanship is good. The specimen conforms to the *Friley* type (Suhm and Jelks 1962). Provenience is Test Unit 3, Level 3.

Specimen F (Fig. 5)

Petrified wood was utilized for the manufacture of this projectile point. The tip and one barb are missing. The blade is triangular without serrations and has flaring, almost perpendicular, barbs. The overall length is 19 mm, and the original width is unknown. The stem forms from weak shoulders and contracts to an irregular base. Stem length is 5 mm. The point is similar to but lacks the upturned barbs characteristic of **Friley** points (Suhm and Jelks 1962). Provenience is Test Unit 3, Level 2.

Specimen G (Fig. 5)

This complete arrowpoint was manufactured from petrified wood and was completely bifaced. The blade is triangular with serrations. Overall length is 27.4 mm, and width is 19.6 mm. The barbs are strong and widely flaring. The stem is long (9 mm) and contracts to a slightly pointed base. Stem width is 4.9 mm. Overall workmanship is excellent considering that the material is a poor quality petrified wood. This point has been classified as **Perdiz** (Suhm and Jelks 1962). Provenience is Test Unit 2, Level 2.

Specimen H (Fig. 5)

This projectile point is partially complete, missing only one barb and the tip. The manufacture material is chert. The blade is convex with widely flaring barbs. Total overall length of the point is 28 mm. The shoulder appears to be nearly perpendicular to the blade. The stem is long and slightly contracting to a rounded base. Stem length is 7.7 mm, and stem width is 5.7 mm. Overall workmanship is good and the point has been completely bifaced. The point falls within the range of the **Alba** type as described by Suhm and Jelks (1962). Provenience is Test Unit 3, Level 3.

Specimen I (Fig. 5)

This is the largest arrowpoint recovered and the only point recovered from Test Unit 4. This specimen is manufactured from petrified wood and is completely bifaced. The blade is long with slightly expanding serrated edges. The overall length is 38.2 mm, and width is 14.3 mm. The barbs are slight and both exhibit some cortex. The stem is slightly contracting to a somewhat rounded base. Stem length is 7.7 mm, and stem width is 5.4 mm. Provenience is Test Unit 4, Level 1.

Arrowpoint Fragments (Fig. 5J-N)

A total of 5 arrowpoint fragments was recovered, and all appear to have been broken during manufacture. Three blade fragments were recovered (Fig. 5J-L), all of which were unifacially worked with emphasis on blade shape. Two are of chert and the other is of petrified wood. Two basal fragments (Fig. 5M,N) are bifacially worked and appear to be preforms. Specimen N shows some attempt to start stem formation.

Other Bifaces

A total of 6 bifaces or biface fragments was recovered during the test (Fig. 6A-F). A *Gahagan* biface (Fig. 6A) and a distal fragment (Fig. 6B) are thinned bifaces while the remaining four specimens represent various biface reduction stages. Three are petrified wood (Fig. 6B,C,F); the remainder are flint or chert.

The *Gahagan* biface (Fig. 6A) is 13 cm long with a maximum width of 44.4 mm. Average thickness is 4.5 mm. This biface has a wide blade which rapidly converges to a needle-like tip. The blade edges are recurved at the base and are finely retouched. There is no wear on the blade edges. The base is concave with a maximum indentation of 5.6 mm. Overall workmanship is excellent with wide billet flake removal. Provenience is Test Unit 3, Level 2.

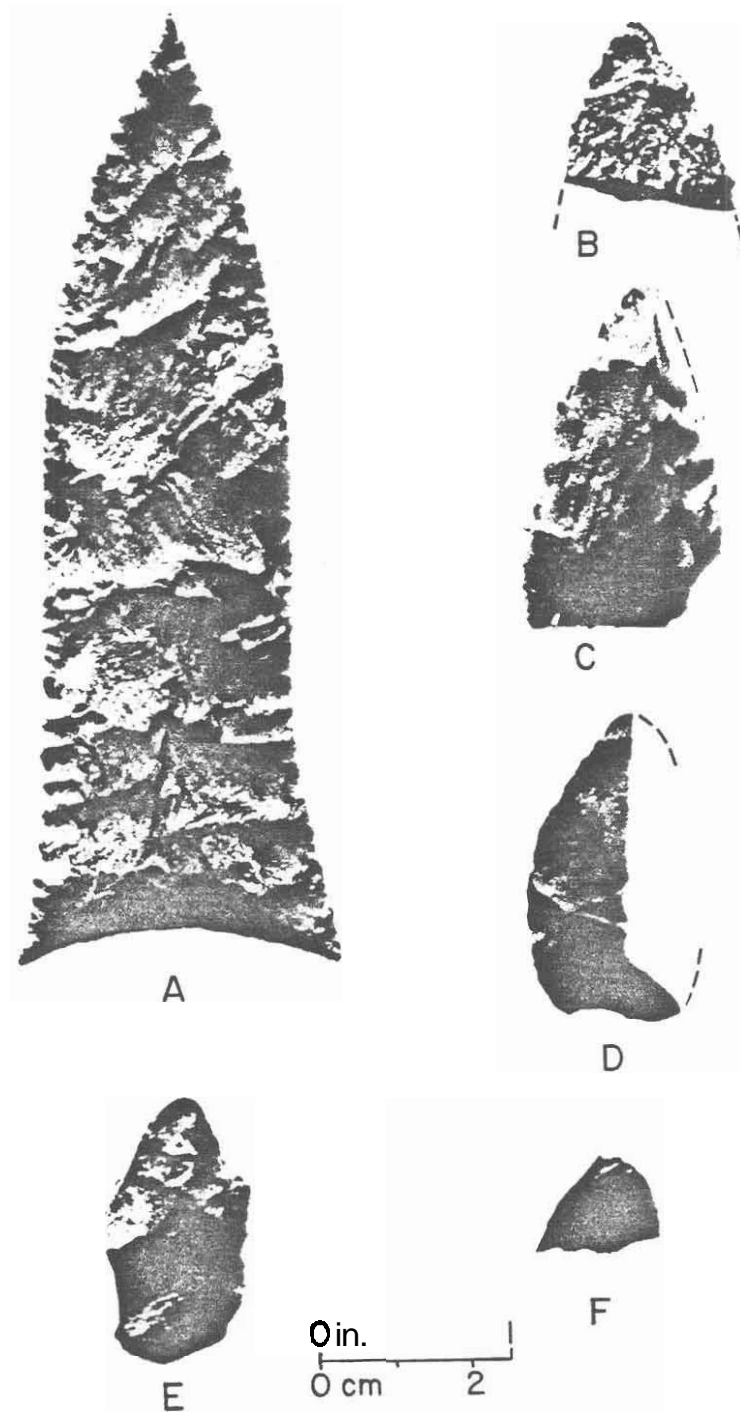


FIGURE 6. Other bifaces.

Unifaces

Three unifacial implements (Fig. 7A-C) were recovered. A gouge which was manufactured from petrified wood (Fig. 7A) was recovered from Test Unit 4, Level 10. The gouge is uniformly worked over the dorsal surface but only partially worked over the ventral surface. It is 52.7 mm long, 44.3 mm wide, and 11.4 mm thick. The bit area is partially bifaced but not steep in angle. The angle is approximately 47° from the ventral plane.

The second uniface (Fig. 7B) is a small end and side scraper with no ventral retouch and a steep bevel opposite the flake platform and on a lateral edge. Overall length is 30.8 mm, width is 19.3 mm, and thickness is 4.1 mm. This specimen was recovered from Test Unit 1, Level 4.

The third uniface (Fig. 7C) was from Test Unit 3, Level 9, and is of a poor quality petrified wood gravel exhibiting lateral edge preparation. The edge angle, approximately 20°, is not steep. Overall length of the piece is 50.9 mm, and width is 29.9 mm. The worked area is approximately 26 mm in length.

Modified Flake, Cores, Hammerstones, and Pitted Stone

MODIFIED FLAKE (Fig. 7D)

A single modified flake was recovered from Test Unit 1, Level 6. This is a small flake fragment and lacks a platform. Modification in the form of edge beveling is present over both lateral edges of the flake. No polish is present. Slight beaks are present on one edge but are not prominent. The opposite edge is concave and roughly uniform.

CORES (Fig. 8A,B)

A total of 19 cores was recovered. These cores have been divided into two categories. The largest category is the simple core (Fig. 8A), cores

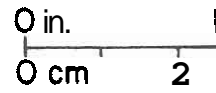
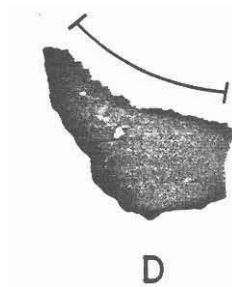
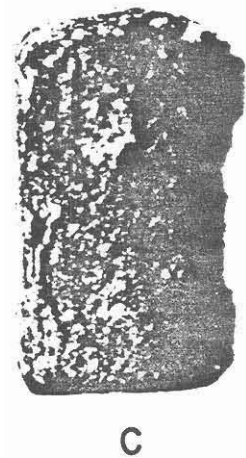


FIGURE 7. Unifaces and modified flake.

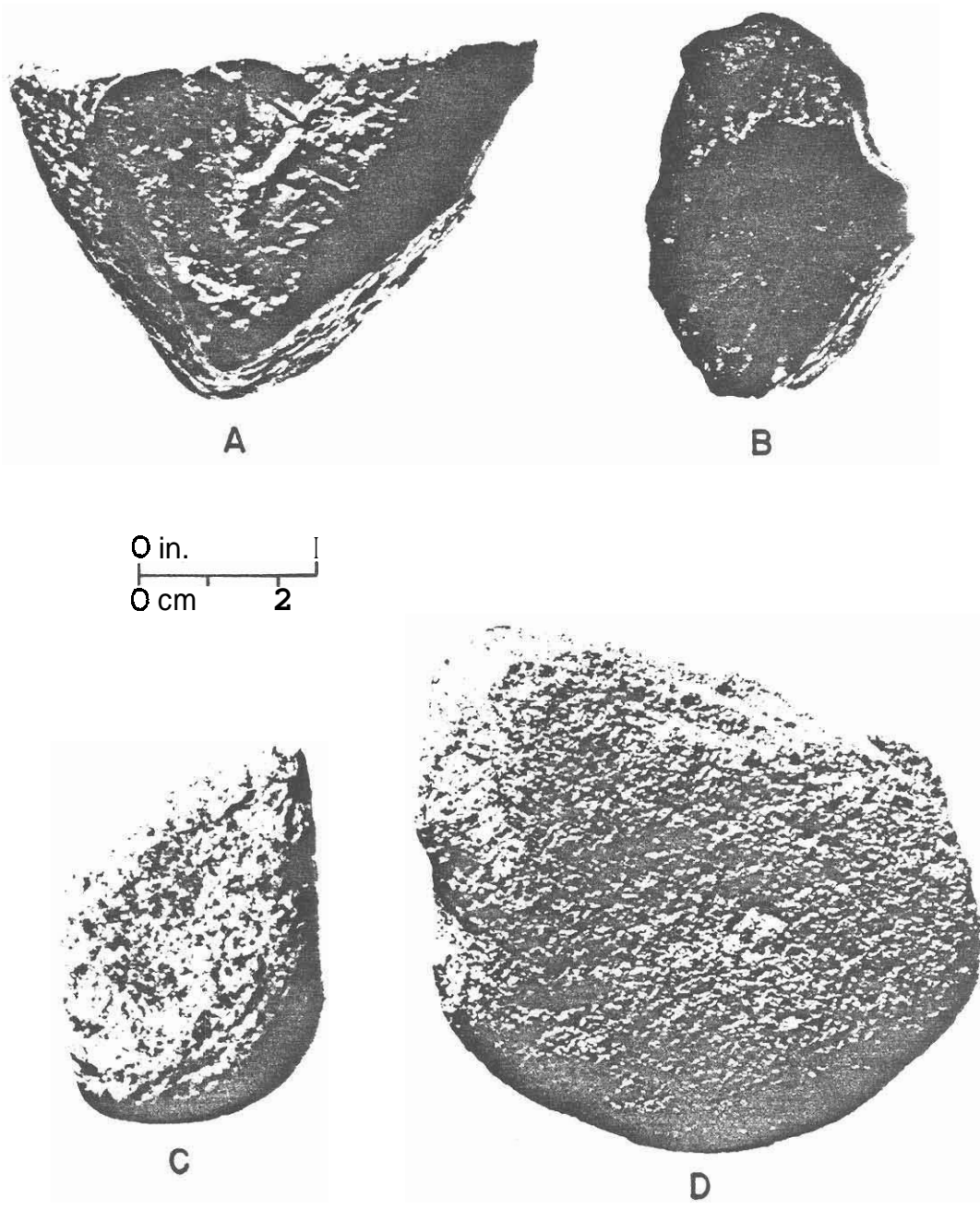


FIGURE 8. Cores, hamerstone, and pitted stone.

from which only a few flakes were removed presumably because the material was not suitable for further reduction. Flake removal is generally random over the pebble or cobble surface. The majority of these cores is chert, and three are petrified wood. A total of 13 cores was placed in this category. The second category comprises cores that are more complex in nature and primarily represent attempts at core reduction (Fig. 8B). These cores are often worked bifacially over the entire pebble or cobble. Half of this group is petrified wood; the other is chert or flint. Six cores fall into this category.

HAMMERSTONES (Fig. 8C)

Although numerous quartz and quartzite pebbles were contained within the sand deposits and gravels, only five were retained as being possible hammerstones. Utilization on all but one is minimal. The illustrated specimen (Fig. 8C) shows obvious pecking over one end and minimal pecking over the other end. This specimen is 5.6 cm long and 3.6 cm thick.

PITTED STONE (Fig. 8D)

One pitted stone was recovered from Test Unit 1, Level 10. This stone is a very friable creamy sandstone with two small pitted areas in either side of the stone. The depressions are slight, roughly 3 mm deep, and approximately 25 to 28 mm across. Overall, the stone is approximately 85 mm long, 65 mm wide, and 29 mm thick. The material is unusual in that it is very soft and will crumble under heavy pressure. Such soft material would imply use as a paint palette rather than as an anvil which is the usual presumed function of a pitted stone.

Debitage

A total of 2303 flakes and chips was recovered in the four test units. Other than providing a distribution analysis of the debitage, it was felt that the small sample size would limit any further types of analyses.

Pottery

Testing produced 24 potsherds (Fig. 9A-D). All but two sherds were of sandy paste. One of these was recovered from the County road cut near Test Unit 1. It is a large piece of grog- and shell-tempered pottery. All of the sherds are undecorated and, largely due to the sand content of the paste, have unsmoothed surfaces. The sherds are soft and friable. Two small rim fragments (Fig. 9C,D) were also recovered but are too small to determine bowl size.

Occasional burned clay was also found but the pieces appear to have been incidental to hearths or fires. No daub was noted during the test.

Historic Material

Recent historic material was noticeably scarce, even in the upper levels. This paucity of material was surprising due to the heavy use of the area by local residents. Only one .22 caliber cartridge case was found in Test Unit 1, Level 1. Also recovered was a single glass bead. This bead (Fig. 9E) is of an opaque, milky glass, 8.7 mm in diameter and 6.8 mm in thickness. The hole does not appear to be machine cut.

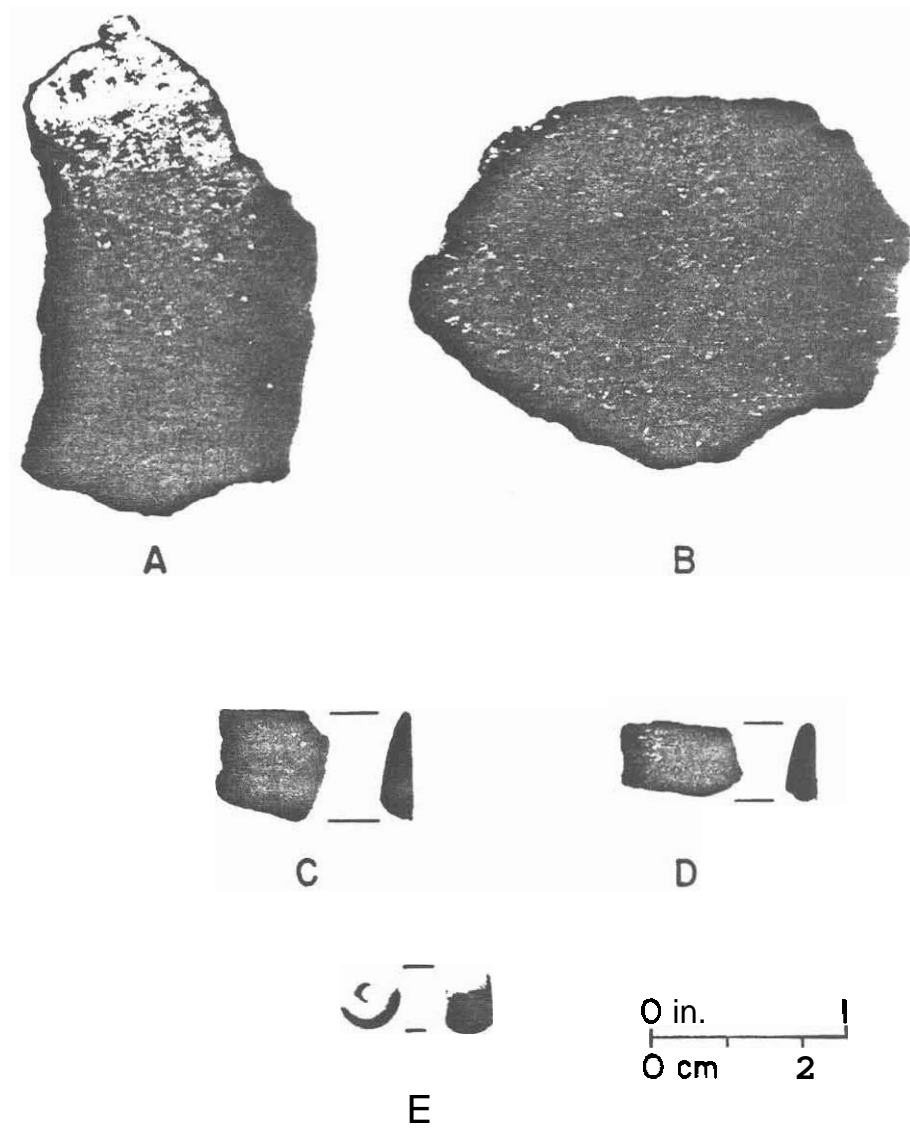


FIGURE 9. Pottery and glass bead.

INTRASITE ARTIFACT DISTRIBUTION

Due to the limitations of any testing procedure, test data cannot be held as conclusive. However, a few observations are possible from the indications. There does appear to be reasonable evidence that there is a definite vertical separation of arrowpoints from dart points at Site 41PK69. There is also reasonable evidence that pottery from the site is associated with arrowpoints.

No arrowpoints were recovered at depths greater than 40 cm (Table 1). The dart points, on the other hand, were all below 70 cm (Table 1). The deposits between 40 and 70 cm produced no projectile points but did contain pottery. It can be postulated that the material recovered from these deposits represents some downward movement. While the site has been disturbed by rodents and forestry operations, it does not appear to be badly disturbed. There is also a hint of separation between the dart points from Level 8 (80 cm) and those from Levels 11 and 12 (100 to 120 cm). If indeed these separations are real and not a result of sampling error, then the site has great potential for aiding in defining the cultural sequence of the region.

While some pottery was recovered from nonarrowpoint levels (Table 1), it is clear that the pottery can be associated with the arrowpoints. Other investigations in the region indicate that pottery was present in association with transitional Archaic as well as Late Prehistoric materials (McClurken 1968; Keller and Weir 1979). The association at Site 41PK69 implies that the pottery is principally Late Prehistoric.

Over half of the 2303 flint flakes recovered occurred within the first four levels (40 cm). There was a general decline in flake count from Level 4 to the basal gravel or clay except for a slight increase which occurred in Levels 9, 10, and 12 (Fig. 10). This increase corresponds well with the dart point recovery at these depths.

TABLE 1. Prehistoric artifact distribution by level.

Level	Dart Point	Arrowpoint	Arrowpoint Fragment	Biface	Biface Fragment	Uniface	Modified Flake	Simple Cores	Complex Cores	Hammerstone	Pitted Stone	Pottery
1		1	2					1				2
2		2	1	3				1				2
3		2	1		1		1					5
4			1			1	1		1			7
5												5
6						1	1		1			1
7							1	1				1
8	2						2		1			
9				1	1		1		1			1
10					1		3	1	1	1		
11	1											
12	1						3	2				
13												
14				1								
15												
Total	4	5	5	4	2	3	1	13	6	5	1	24

Some areal distribution of artifacts is also suggested from the testing at Site 41PK69. The site appears to lie primarily west of Test Unit 4. This unit produced the least amount of lithic debitage and artifacts, and would appear to represent marginal occupation. Test Unit 3 produced the highest return in Late Prehistoric materials including the *Gahagan* biface. However, the lower component was not well represented in Test Unit 3. The lower component is best represented in Test Units 1 and 2 on the western extent of the area tested.

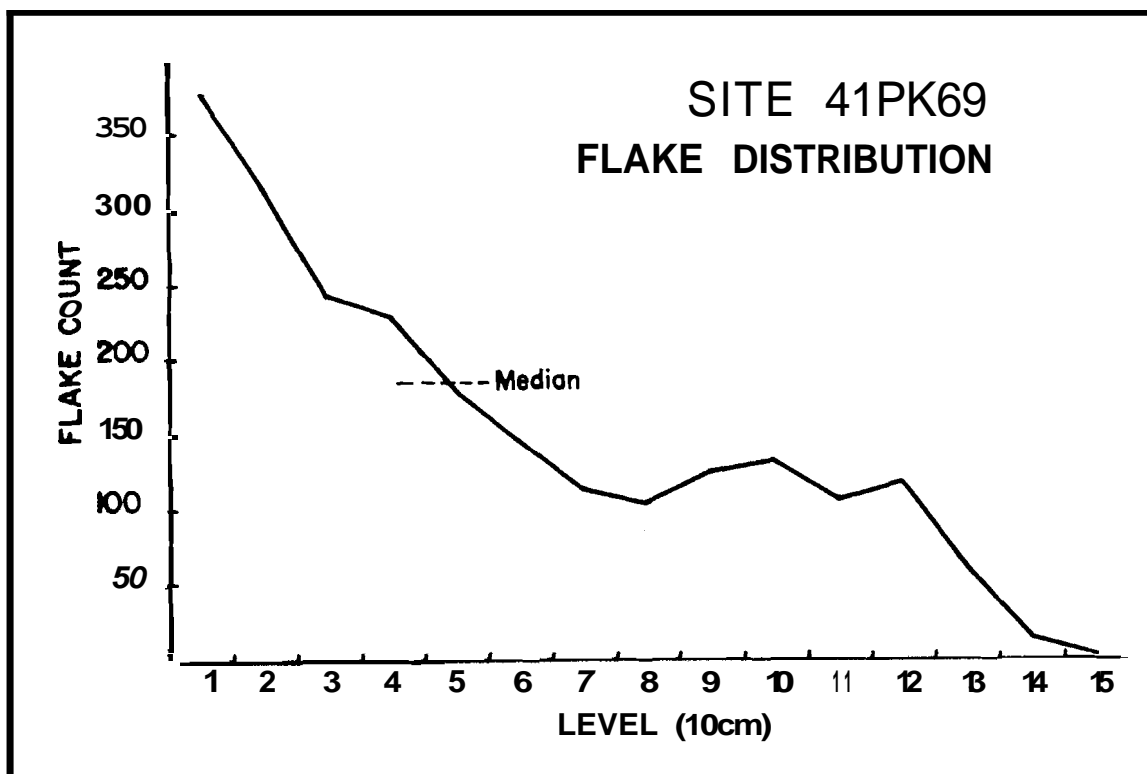


FIGURE 10. Distribution of lithic debris.

INTERSITE COMPARISONS

Archaeological data gathered during excavations at Lake Livingston indicate a short span of occupation from the Late Archaic Period to the Late Prehistoric Period (McClurken 1968:107). Indications are that sandy paste pottery and contracting-stem dart points are characteristics of the Late Archaic Period while arrowpoints and decorated pottery along with dart points and sand-tempered pottery are characteristics of the Late Prehistoric Period.

Data from excavations at Lake Conroe (Shafer 1968) indicate that sand-tempered pottery is dominant and is associated with the Late Archaic and Late Prehistoric Periods. The interpretation is that this pottery represents a stable and indigenous population that changed over time with the introduction of the bow and arrow and pottery from outside the region.

Although based on a limited sample, the indications from Site 41PK69 are that the Archaic Period in fact may not be characterized by both dart points and pottery, but rather the pottery may be a characteristic of the Late Prehistoric Period. Indications also are that there may have been a period of total dominance of sand-tempered pottery prior to the arrival of decorated pottery from outside the region.

The presence of the **Gahagan** biface points to contact with northern cultures. A northern influence is not substantiated by the pottery. It is noteworthy that at the George C. Davis Site, **Gahagan** bifaces which were well made and lacked wear on the blades were associated with the burial areas rather than the village areas (Shafer 1973:224). Whether or not the **Gahagan** biface from Site 41PK69 is just nonutilized or was intended as a burial offering is uncertain. The **Gahagan** biface at 41PK69 clearly was not associated with a burial. Indications are that **Gahagan** bifaces were status symbols and were Caddoan in origin (Shafer 1973:254).

The lone historic artifact which could be indicative of European contact with the indigeneous population is the glass bead. Three beads similar to this bead were recovered from the Pearson Site in Rains County, Texas, which contained numerous historic artifacts and dated primarily to the period of contact between Europeans and the aboriginal inhabitants of the site (Duffield and Jelks 1961).

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Archaeological testing of Site 41PK69 has yielded certain information which could prove beneficial to the understanding of the regional archaeology. The site has potential for yielding evidence concerning cultural sequences and regional development. The relatively undisturbed nature of the deposits, their depth, and component separation should provide new information and further refine existing information for the region.

The site tested clearly indicates at least two separate occupations. There is also an apparent separation of pottery and nonpottery cultures which has not been defined previously for the area.

The site appears to have been oriented toward the utilization of lithic resources. The presence of a high quantity of lithic material should provide the basis for an in-depth study of lithic technology. The quantity and types of tools could also furnish the potential for studies into the subsistence strategies of the site's occupants.

On the basis of the test, Site 41PK69 should be considered eligible for inclusion within the National Register of Historic Places. This inclusion should be primarily on the basis of the availability of information contained within the site rather than any specific feature within the site. Because the site is to be encroached upon by the federal bridge replacement project, it is believed that mitigation could be facilitated by the excavation of the site in order to gather the data that the site possesses.

It is proposed that mitigation be accomplished by emphasis on two primary approaches to the site. The first primary consideration should be the expansion of large horizontal excavations near the densest area of Late Prehistoric occupation. This large horizontal excavation would potentially

locate features associated with the occupation of the Late Prehistoric population. While the deposits are somewhat disturbed, i.e., rodent and forestry activities, it is likely that isolated features and possibly habitation areas are extant.

The second primary consideration would be to continue excavations at greater depths to define and substantiate the apparent cultural sequence. This approach would be of great importance to the further understanding of the cultural development of a relatively unknown region.

Additional considerations would be the recovery of information relevant to the subsistence of the population and to the level of lithic technology being practiced.

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