

NEWSLETTER

SOUTHEASTERN ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE

Vol. III, No. 1

William G. Haag, Editor

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Foreword

This number marks the first appearance of the SAC Newsletter since March, 1941. A few obvious reasons have either prevented publication or suggested the inadvisability of publication. In October, 1950, at the Seventh Conference at Knoxville, it was unanimously approved that the Newsletter should be revived and that copy be requested from members of the Conference.

The status of the Newsletter is much as follows. In 1941 the plan for publication was based on the idea that certain permanent publications would accrue from the temporary Newsletter. At that time, demand was great enough to warrant planning the reissue of back numbers of the Newsletter and certain of these were mimeographed so that there is on hand now about fifty copies each of Nos. 1, 2, 5, and 6 of Vol. I, and Nos. 1 and 4 of Vol. II. Since 1945, I have been giving freely these numbers to anyone asking for them. At Knoxville it was agreed that these back issues may be had for \$2 until the supply is exhausted. No attempt will be made to reissue the now depleted numbers. Members will not be dunned for current and immediate future numbers as there is some cash in the till. Presently, postage is the most expensive operating item. New members will be charged \$1 unless they are recent purchasers of the back issues. The cost will thus be more equally distributed.

Now that the Ceramic Repository of the Eastern U. S. has undertaken to publish established pottery types it is hoped that **this** may be the once-looked-forward-to permanent publication. It does not, however, mean that the purpose served by the Newsletter has been preempted. It is believed that there is still a need for a medium to disseminate recent data or to ask for comparative information. The editor has included in this number a short article of this nature; timely, in **that** the Eighth Conference at Gainesville will be primarily concerned with chipped-flint typology, and fitting, in that I need every bit of information that can be had about these artifacts. In calling for similar material for the next Newsletter or for new types in pottery or other media, it seems that much more may be accomplished if each member will undertake the production of his article, sending the finished material to the editor. For example, the announcements of the Gainesville meeting were mimeoed in 200 copies and the copies sent to me. If a member has an article prepared in this way and sends 200 unclipped, unnumbered copies of each page to me, they may be immediately inserted into a Newsletter. The article I have prepared on the Jaketown Flint Industry may serve as a model for format but style may be as desired. I had 200 copies of the

drawings of the flints made at a cost of \$4.57. Six hundred sheets of mimeo paper and three stencils ran the total cost of the article to about \$6. If any member wishes to publish a new pottery type or something calling for an illustration and cannot get the work done locally, I will undertake to assure that it is done, at about \$4.50 for 200 copies of a full page line-drawing illustration. A full-page half-tone costs about \$7.50 for the cut alone as compared to \$1.50 for a line drawing. Thus the cost of a full page half-tone and 200 copies plus paper and labor is about \$10. The plate illustrating the Jaketown flint types was very simple to prepare and a word about it may aid others in preparing drawings of pottery or flint. The original negative was a 35 mm. shot that was blown up to an 8 x 10 matte-surface print (or an unferrotyped glossy print). The print was greatly underexposed so that only a faint outline of the principal features of the artifacts remained. With the actual specimens in hand and a normal print of the negative for comparison and guide, the details and outlines were drawn with India ink. The remaining traces of the photograph may be bleached entirely away leaving only a black line drawing on a white background but if the print is light enough, this last step is not necessary. In the accompanying illustration, only a line-cut was ordered but the lithographers thought the delicate shading of the photograph was desired so they made a halftone, hence, the illustration shows shading which will not appear in line cuts. I believe that an illustration of this kind shows much more than a simple halftone photograph of the flints would show. Also it is a method by which an untalented author can turn out a reasonably accurate depiction of the material.

It has been a matter of some embarrassment to the editor that some of the first numbers of the Newsletter render appropriate acknowledgement of authorship difficult. This need not occur again. Despite the fact that the Newsletter is a mimeographed publication it is going to be used repeatedly as a reference, hence, it is most appropriate that authorship be designated. The Newsletter will no longer serve as a simple gossip sheet: paper costs too much. Copy of any appropriate material is requested. Length of article need be controlled by the Author's purse only.

SIXTH SOUTHEASTERN ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE

The Sixth Conference was held at the University of Kentucky, Lexington, September 4-5, 1941. Despite a lapse of ten years since that meeting, it seems a fitting and still timely gesture to report upon some of its highlights and some of its results. It would be unthinkable indeed for the editor to be so remiss as to fail to mention the birth of the Buzzard Cult and to deplore more recent efforts to sanctify the old bird; however, it may be the better part of discretion to avoid this subject. One-sentence summaries of the papers presented are given below.

The Sixth Conference had as objectives the reporting upon progress in the Southeast in four fields, viz., Early Horizons, Hopewellian Phase, Middle Mississippi Pottery, and Protohistoric Horizons.

Early Horizons

Charles H. Fairbanks--Stallings Island Focus defined and compared with Kentucky Archaic and New York Laurentian.

James C. Greenacre--Burial customs of the Kentucky Archaic.

Henry A. Carey--Description of Indian Knoll Site.

William G. Haag--Typology as the criteria for relating the Parrish Site to early western artifacts.

Hopewellian

Harold V. Anderson--Summary of 28 mounds and their traits that may be relegated to the Copena Aspect.

John B. Elliott--The Robbins mound, an Adena site.

Glenn A. Black--Hopewellian represented in varying degrees of complexity in Kankakee valley, St. Joseph-Wabash-White rivers, and in Ohio valley.

Thorne Deuel--Hopewellian in Illinois complicated by great variation in sites assigned to that aspect.

Harry A. Tourtelot--Report on the McQuercuodale site.

Steve B. Wimberly--Only pottery conclusively demonstrated to be associated with Copena sites is one elbow pipe of pottery from Mg63 site.

Proto-historic Horizons

J. Joe Finkelstein--The succession of ethnic groups in E. Tennessee.

Carl F. Miller--De Soto's travels through Alabama.

Charles H. Fairbanks--Culture history of the Lamar Aspect.

William G. Haag--Excavation of a supposed Shawnee historic site.

SEVENTH SOUTHEASTERN ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE

The Seventh conference met at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, October 13-14, 1950. T. M. N. Lewis, Chairman of the host department, opened the meeting. Madeline Kneberg served as Secretary. James B. Griffin assumed the chair to hear reports of current work by various members. The following notes are condensed from the minutes of the meeting received from Kneberg.

John Goggin, University of Florida. Reports three sites investigated: 1) Spring Run site, 40 miles NW of Gainesville, dated 1650 AD, showing Spanish pottery and an aboriginal late limestone-tempered pottery; 2) site 40 miles E. of St. Johns River dated 1763-84, a trading post for Seminoles showing English trade material; and 3) a Mission period site dated 1690.

Hale Smith, Florida State University. A temple mound on Lake Lafayette with ball court and Leon-Jefferson Complicated Stamped pottery.

William Sears, University of Georgia. A burial mound at Kolomoki.

Joseph Caldwell, Smithsonian Institution. Six cultural horizons defined in the Allatoona Reservoir: 1) Kellogg, fabric-marked pottery; 2) Cartersville, simple stamped and check stamped with tetrapods; 3) Woodstock, complicated-stamped pottery, palisades, corn; 4) Etowah, temple mounds; 5) Savannah, filfot-cross complicated-stamped pottery; 6) Lamar, continuing into historic Creek times. Whatever Cherokee is, it is not in the Lamar tradition.

Joffre Coe, University of North Carolina. 1) Savannah-Irene sites; 2) Twelve-foot deep site on Yadkin, lower ten feet nonpottery, top two feet with Irene, Deptford, cordmarked, and fabric-marked pottery types, last type associated with large triangular projectile points. Below the pottery level are successively, large stemmed points, small stemmed points associated with atlatl weights, and in lowest two feet of sand are Lake Mohave type points, all waterworn.

William Haag, University of Mississippi. 1) Bramlett Site, near campus, a Mulberry Creek Cordmarked village; 2) Jaketown site (reported upon in this Newsletter.)

John Cotter, National Park Service. The Gordon Site, on Coles Creek, near Natchez, Mississippi. Includes nearly all pottery types of the Lower Valley and probably dates from Plaquemine period.

Robert Stephenson, Smithsonian Institution. In Whitney Reservoir, Texas, 1) 3 rock shelters of Edwards Plateau period; 2) villages sites characterized by ceremonial pits 90 feet in diameter and ten or more feet deep. The pottery is 50-60% shell tempered, plain surface; remainder is grit tempered such as Caddo incised, engraved and fingernail punctated types.

Glenn Black, Angel Mounds. The Mann Site, in SW Indiana, one and one-half mile long, Woodland, Middle Mississippi, and Hopewellian cultural materials plus some complicated-stamped ware that resembles Swift Creed designs.

James Griffin, University of Michigan. Lower Illinois and adjacent Mississippi River Valley survey spent summer of 1950 at Cahokia environs noting at least 200 truncated pyramidal mounds and numerous villages and burial mounds. Sequence seems to be 1) Channel J (Fisk); 2) Poverty Point-like; 3) Baumer-like, plus sand-tempered pottery; 4) Tchefuncte-Tchula; 5) Strong cordmarking with Illinois Valley Hopewell; 6) Cordmarking plus check stamped; 7) Several different kinds of Middle Mississippi. Some late Woodland pottery undoubtedly survived along with Early Mississippi--it began to show strap handles.

Pottery type chronology

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to building up a comparative chart of the succession of pottery types in various portions of the Southeast. Reference to the following chart will make the following notes on the types understandable. At the close of the Knoxville meeting Lewis and Kneberg prepared a tentative chart and mailed it to all members attending that meeting. Only Fairbanks responded with some further notations and the appropriate changes have been made. It is readily understood that this chart will be subject to constant change.

Simple Stamped types.

Deptford and Mossy Oak Simple Stamped types are typical of wares or groups of related types. In the Deptford grouping was combined Cartersville SS from N. Georgia.

Paintsville Simple Stamped from Adena of E. Kentucky, Turner Site in Ohio, and Mann Site in SW Indiana may be equated with Mossy Oak and the former name dropped. Bluff Creek Simple Stamped shows same techniques of manufacture as Mossy Oak, hence, valid to assume it is an aerial equivalent. Bluff Creek, Mossy Oak, and Deptford are representatives of a widespread, genetically and generically related, complex. Two apparently late types, Galt Simple Stamped and an unnamed Overhill Cherokee type resemble the ware characteristics of Lamar Complicated Stamped.

Check Stamped types.

Gulf and Florida types will be reorganized. Deptfordlike material will certainly be a new type. Biscayne CS is superseded by equivalent type, St. Johns CS. Ponchartrain CS may be Wakulla working around through Gulf into Lower Mississippi drainage.

Woodstock CS is coeval with Macon Plateau; Pee Dee CS is a clay-tempered type related to Wilmington Heavy Cord Marked.

Wright CS, distinguished by tetrapods and a preponderance of folded rims, must go back into Hopewellian horizons but tentative in placement. Check stamped sherds occur at Seip and at Turner but are rare. The clay-tempered CS type Wheeler CS is approximately the same in sites in Northern Mississippi, N. Alabama, S. Mississippi, and W. Tennessee. It may have some shape differences that will prove distributionally significant, but by and large it is postHopewell and preMississippi.

DATE	MISSISSIPPI VALLEY	EASTERN MISSISSIPPI	N. ALABAMA W. TENNESSEE	N. GEORGIA E. TENNESSEE	CENTRAL GEORGIA	AUGUSTA-SAVANNAH COAST	S. GEORGIA N.W. FLORIDA	REST OF FLORIDA	N. CAROLINA
1800		CHICKASAW	Mc. KEE ISLAND	CHEROKEE			SEMINOLE	SEMINOLE	SIJUAN
1700					OCMULGEE FIELDS	FORT KING GEORGE	LEON-JEFFERSON (APALACHEE)	ST. AUGUSTINE	
1600							FORT WALTON (LAMAR, MOUNDVILLE)	ST. JOHNS II GLADES III	
1500	LATE MISS.			LAMAR	LAMAR	IRENE			
1400				SAVANNAH	SAVANNAH	SAVANNAH	MOUNDVILLE		
1300	WALLS-PEGAN POINT	MILLER III	MOUNDVILLE GRAY, DUCK	ETOWAH DALLAS	ETOWAH		KOLOMOKI		UWHARRIE
1200	EARLY MISS.								
1100						WILMINGTON	WEE DEN IS II	ST. JOHNS IB GLADES II	
1000				HIWASSEE IS	MACON PLATEAU				
900			OBIDON	WOODSTOCK	SWIFT CREEK II	BREWTON HILL			
800		MULBERRY CREEK	MULBERRY CREEK HARMONS CREEK	HAMILTON	NAPIER		WEE DEN IS I		YADKIN
700	BAYTOWN								
600		MILLER II(FURRS)	PIGK WICK				SWIFT CREEK SANTA ROSA	ST. JOHNS IA (LATE)	
500									
400				CANDY CREEK	SWIFT CREEK I		SWIFT CREEK		CANDY CREEK-LIKE
300									
200									
100									
A.D.			BLUFF CREEK	MOSSY OAK DEPTFORD	MOSSY OAK	DEPTFORD	DEPTFORD	ST. JOHNS IA (EARLY) GLADES I	LOWER PEE DEE DEPTFORD
100									
200									
300									
400			WRIGHT			THOMS CREEK			
500									
600									
700									
800									
900									
1000	TCHULA	SALTILLO	LONG BRANCH ALEXANDER WHEELER COMPLEX	DUNLAP WATTS BAR		REFUGE STALLINGS IS	FIBER	ORANGE	SAWTOOTH

CHRONOLOGY OF SOUTHEASTERN CULTURES
BASED UPON POTTERY TYPES

SOUTHEASTERN ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE
OCTOBER 13-14, 1950 — UNIV. OF TENNESSEE

Complicated Stamped types.

Swift Creek Comp. St. from late sites such as Kolomoki becomes, in that part, Kolomoki Comp. St. Swift Creek II will eventually become several types of which Brewton Hill is one variant. Swift Creek as a type name will survive in Swift Creek I horizon types only.

Etowah and Savannah Comp. St. lumped together in type description but are distinct in the Clark Hill area.

Mann Complicated Stamped is name given to material from SW Indiana unlike any of the known types although the design is reminiscent of Swift Creek Comp. St.

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Dr. George Schweitzer of the University of Tennessee Department of Chemistry and of the Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies spoke to the Conference dinner meeting on "Carbon 14 Dating."

At the concluding business session the invitation of John Goggin that the Eighth Archaeological Conference meet in Gainesville was accepted. Goggin was elected Chairman, and he has appointed John Griffin Secretary. William Haag was requested to continue as Editor of the Newsletter, and members were urged to submit material for circulation in the Newsletter.

Editor's Note: The somewhat-delayed appearance of the Newsletter is because I had to write the last-minute note on the Jaketown Site, no other material having been received. (WGH)

THE JAKETOWN FLINT INDUSTRY

The Jaketown site is located about four miles north of the town of Belzoni, in Humphreys County, Mississippi. It consists of several large truncated pyramidal mounds, a group of low conical earth mounds, and an extensive midden which attains a depth of ten or more feet in certain portions of the site. The site was surface collected by J. B. Griffin in 1941 and test-pitted by Phil Phillips in 1942. In the bottom three feet or so of the two major tests Phillips noted the virtual absence of pottery and a suggestion of baked clay objects. The report of these findings will appear in the final report of the Lower Mississippi Alluvial Valley Archaeological Survey. The Jaketown site is designated 20-0-1 in the Survey system. It is Hu 1 in the University of Mississippi survey.

In May 1950 while returning from an investigation of mastodon remains in Wilkinson County, I learned that the Mississippi Highway Department was excavating a large borrow pit at Jaketown. Since the site was unknown to me, a visit was made there. The edge of the borrow pit paralleled closely one of the temple mounds and a very revealing midden profile was exposed beneath the mound to a depth of about nine feet. During the summer of 1950 several trips were made to the site, as the borrow pit increased in size and depth.

As an outgrowth of the Lower Alluvial Valley Survey, Ford and Phillips sought a site that would give some stratigraphic demonstration of the sequence of pottery types in their introduction in the Valley. After seeing the Jaketown site borrow pit, Phillips decided to dig there and with Ford and Warren Eanes an excavation was undertaken from March through May of 1951. I lent such encouragement as could be done at no cost. These excavations were primarily concerned with the deep midden deposits and their relations to the natural levee upon which they were first laid. Subsequent study by Ford has demonstrated the natural levee to have been laid down by the Ohio River. One of the small, low, earth mounds was excavated. A report of these findings will be an AMNH bulletin by Ford, Phillips, & Haag.

The low earth mounds, seven in number, are about 1500 feet removed from the borrow pit and their very existence was not fully realized until the cotton crop was gone and the land prepared by fall plowing. I first examined these low mounds in November 1950 at a time when the ground was thoroughly washed by the fall rains. The mounds are quite obviously artificial since they are constructed of a foreign, backswamp, soil much lighter in color than the Delta silts; they are easily discerned in aerial photographs of the area. The surface in the vicinity was remarkable in another way in that it was liberally dotted with thousands of small flint fragments. Upon close examination, it was revealed that most of these fragments were flakes or thin bladelets. Two major types of artifacts are represented— 1) a pronged or pointed tool for which the names perforator or drill or burin are not justified; and 2) a microblade ranging in size from about 20 mm. to 50 mm. The latter implement is produced by a single blow upon the striking platform of a core. Numerous cores or nuclei are to be found. Nothing else of significance seems to occur with these two microlithic artifact types: some projectile points, simple flake scrapers, steatite vessel fragments, eight small potsherds (yet near the large mounds sherds abound), some sandstone "saws", and rarely some fragments of Poverty Point objects. An hour of collecting the first day produced many hundred examples of the microflints.

The accompanying illustration depicted the range of variation within the two major microlithic tools found at the site. C, E, F, and G are microblades. All specimens illustrated are secondarily chipped on one side only; the reverse side is a smooth, conchoidal fracture surface. No specimen from the entire collection shows secondary chipping or retouching of any kind except on one face of the flake. Microblades have a maximum thickness of 3 mm., but this thickness would be predetermined by the thickness of the bladelet as removed from the core. Nonetheless, it seems that a remarkable control was exercised by the makers of these artifacts as these are quite typical of many hundreds. A and B are retouched completely around the margin; D almost around the margin. B measures 20 mm. long, 3 thick, and 4.5 wide. The retouching on the ends of E, F, and G may in part be a result of usage, but the chipping appears to be very finely and intentionally done.

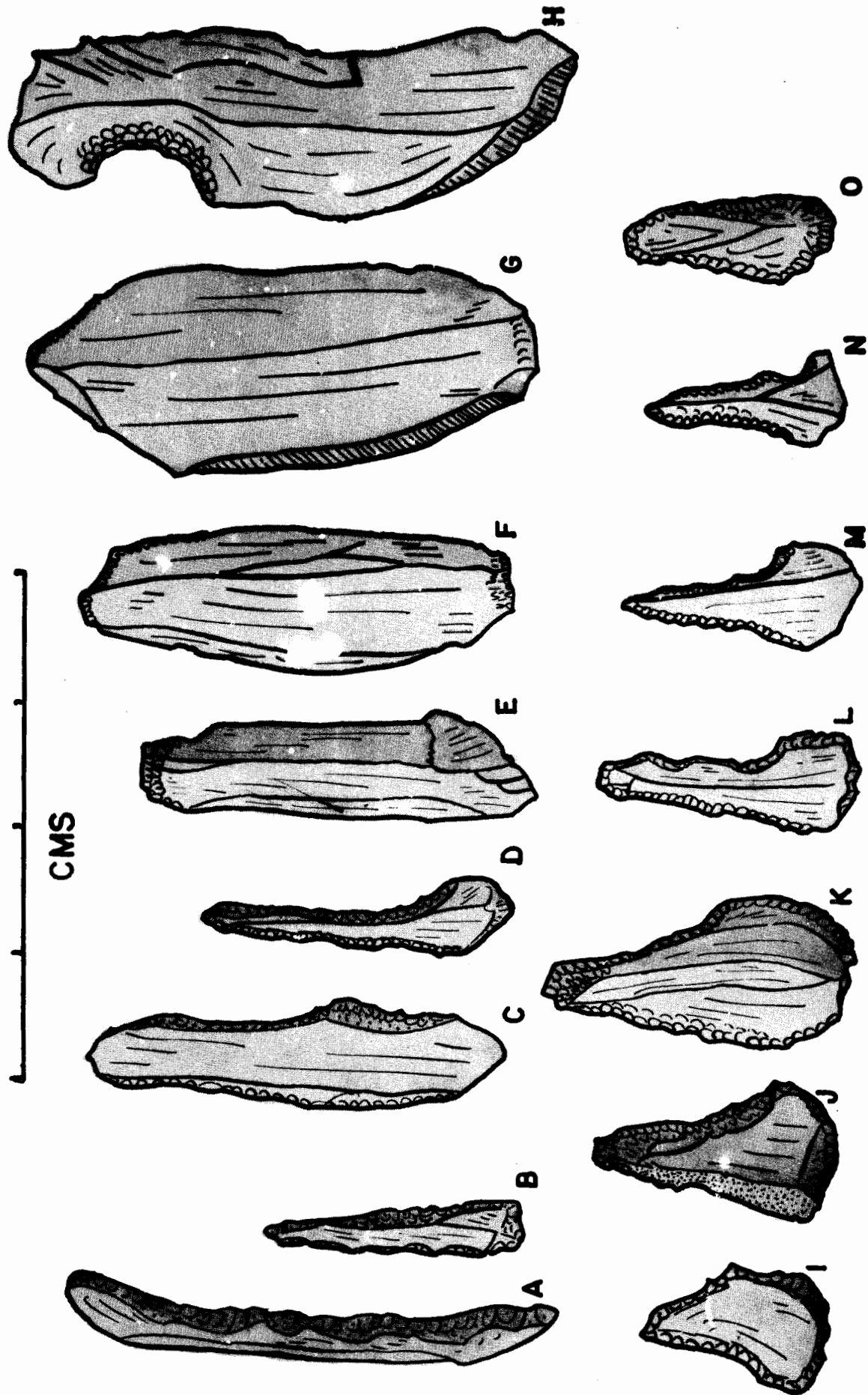
H is a "lunate" scraper; it is not unique but one of more than one hundred. The chipping about these reentries is very fine.

The most common artifact is illustrated I to O. As stated above, none of these specimens has been chipped except from one side of the flake. These objects are made from flakes removed from a pebble core. I, J, K, L, and O are chipped completely around the margin. This, I think, precludes any possibility that these are remnants of larger tools, such as what are often called "gravers" like those from the Parrish site in Kentucky. These objects give every appearance of being complete tools within themselves.

The "flint" utilized in the production of these artifacts is fairly uniformly a yellow chert or a deep red jasper. There is no local hard rock of any kind in the Mississippi Delta region but pebbles of chert could have been obtained as close as ten miles to the eastward from the Tertiary gravels exposed by streams entering the Delta or carried in by these streams from more remote localities.

Despite having sent samples of these flint types to several students of early horizons, only at the type site of Poverty Point has similar material been found. Clarence Webb has literally thousands of identical specimens from that Louisiana site. A trip to Poverty Point this Spring resulted in finding many hundreds. One gets the impression that the objects were made by the same artisans. Although these artifacts are very small, they are not so small or crudely made as to be overlooked in a typical flint assemblage from the same area; this I have repeatedly tested on nearby and remote sites with a lot of flint chips on the surface. Nowhere has similar artifacts appeared.

These tools are not like any objects from either Lauderdale or Green River Archaic, nor is it similar to anything in the Parrish site assemblage, all of which material I have handled repeatedly. There does not appear to be anything like them in Laurentian or other Eastern Archaic manifestations. I thought that the smaller objects from northeastern Oklahoma illustrated in Fig. 7, E, F, G, H, by Baerreis were identical but he has examined some of the Jaketown specimens and pronounces them different: his Ozark specimens are all brought to a point by chipping on both sides. Giddings thinks the flakes are generically similar to Denbigh but not the "perforaters". Movius says he has seen similar artifacts in many places in Europe. It seems obvious that some of the microliths are like those found in Algeria by Pond; and so on. All of which is very interesting but practically without value other than speculative interest. The fact remains that there seems to



be no widespread occurrence of these artifacts in America except in a limited area of the Lower Mississippi River valley. (Poverty Point plantation is about 80 airline miles west of the Jaketown site).

The purpose of this paper is to gain assistance in determining the distribution both aerially and temporally of these artifacts. At Jaketown there is fair evidence that the time of their occurrence is early, perhaps 1500 B. C. or earlier but it is not clear-cut. They certainly do not occur on late sites, i.e., pottery-bearing sites. Those found in the midden near the borrow pit were localized in the lower few feet but an occasional one is found on the surface. None was found in the digging of the low earth mound.

Undue emphasis upon typology may distort occasionally a distributional problem, but the uniqueness of these microliths seems to justify their use for denoting relationships. Also it seems inevitable that these flint types occur elsewhere than the Lower Mississippi Valley.

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