

---

---



# *In-Situ*



---

---

**Newsletter of the Nevada Archaeological Association**

**Winter 2000**

## **Winter is Here**

And that means that your NAA dues are due! Pry some money out of your wallet, find a stamp and an envelope, and fill out and send in the attached membership form along with your hard-earned cash. Your continued, and timely, support is greatly appreciated. Membership in NAA aids greatly in the protection of Nevada archaeology and the dissemination of information.

## **Winter Board Meeting**

Anne DuBarton

The next NAA board meeting will be December 9<sup>th</sup> in Mesquite, Nevada. We are also planning a public presentation on Friday evening December 8<sup>th</sup>. Both the public presentation and the board meeting are scheduled at the Mesquite Recreation Center, 100 West Old Mill Road, Mesquite. The Friday evening presentation will be by Steve Daron, who will talk about archaeological research at Lake Mead National Recreation Area at 7:00 p.m. The field trip will be to a local rock art site and will leave the Budget Inn Suites parking lot at 9:00 a.m. The Budget Inn is located at 390 Sandhill Blvd. If you want to call for rooms their number is 1-800-463-6302. There are numerous other hotel/casinos in Mesquite as well. As usual, the board meeting will begin at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday. See you there.

## **Final Call for Papers**

Steve Daron, 2001 Program Chair

Abstracts for papers, symposia, and posters will be accepted until February 16, 2001, for the 2001 annual meeting. There is no theme for this meeting so presentations in all fields including archeology, history, ethnography, and geology are encouraged. Please send abstracts of 150 words for 20-minute presentations to Steve Daron, P.O. Box 60643, Boulder City, NV 89006, or e-mail to [Steve.Daron@nps.gov](mailto:Steve.Daron@nps.gov). Any questions give me a call at (702) 293-8019.

Early submissions are rather heavily weighted towards the southern portion of the state. Lets here from you folks in the central and northern parts of Nevada!

## **September Board Meeting, Gerlach, Nevada**

Anne DuBarton

The September meeting of the NAA board brought us to the weird environs of the Black Rock Desert. On Saturday the board and guests met at Bruno's (if you've ever been to Gerlach you know he owns half the town) and set out to visit some well-known sites. First we drove to an unnamed hot spring and visited an interesting dump nearby. The Burning Man folks had been there before us and produced some interesting art

using an old car, shotgun shells and paint. I guess art is everywhere!

After this stop we headed down the road to the Ting pebble mound site. Above the dry lake bed hundreds of pebble mounds cluster on an alluvial fan. No artifacts or other indicators of cultural affinity could be found with these mounds originally recorded by Peter Ting, Sr.



Some interesting theories were expounded by the board as to how the mounds had been made, but none would stand up to hard scientific scrutiny. After visiting the Ting site we moved on to the Trego Hot Springs. There is an extensive site associated with these very warm springs. We found several projectile points, numerous grinding stone fragments and lots of debitage.

A third site area was found on our way out from the hot springs. We found numerous obsidian artifacts, ground stone (including a pestle), and bone eroding out of a sand dune.

After taking our fill of archaeology, we retired to Bruno's backroom to discuss NAA business. As always, NAA board meetings and field trips are open to all interested members.

## Great Basin Anthropological Conference, Ogden, Utah

Anne DuBarton

The NAA was well represented at the Great Basin Conference this October in Ogden, Utah. Board members Anne DuBarton, Oyvind Frock and Dave Valentine all attended and helped to staff an NAA table in the book sales area. Members Laureen Perry and Dawna Ferris-Rowley also helped staff the NAA table and our thanks go out to them. Sales of the *Nevada Archaeologist*, NAA mugs and new memberships brought in over \$270.00 for our organization.

Treasurer Oyvind Frock presented a short, but sweet talk in the opening session that focused on how avocational and professional archaeologists can work together to accomplish more than either group could working individually. Despite the fact that this session was running over an hour behind Oyvind did a great job. Oyvind also chaired a rock art session and presented a paper co-authored with Alanah Woody. They presented the results of their pictograph pigment study that may shed some light on why some pictographs are preserved when others are not.

DuBarton and Valentine attended the field trip to a rock art site north of Ogden and to Promontory Point. The rock art site is on private land owned by the Thiokol Corporation who builds the rockets that power the space shuttle. We had to have escorts from their security staff and badges to visit this site that is not usually open to the public. They did allow us to take photographs as long as they weren't pointed toward any of their facilities. The two elements included here show some of the kinds of art found at this site.



This image was described by some of the locals as a “shield”, while the anthropomorphic figure below is pretty much self explanatory.



We also saw numerous animal and bird motifs and abstract elements such as chevrons and circles. These styles are very different than those we usually see in Nevada.

Our final stop on the field trip was at Promontory Point where two railroads, the Union Pacific and Central Pacific, met to make the first Trans-Continental Railroad. Individuals in authentic period costume presented a reenactment of the historic event for us. We learned that

various states contributed gold and silver spikes for the final track connections. Nevada, of course, contributed a silver spike.

Field trips associated with meetings like the Great Basin Anthropological Conference, the Society for American Archaeology annual conference and the Nevada Archaeological Association annual meetings are a way for both professionals and avocational archaeologists to see sites they might not get to see otherwise. I encourage the NAA membership to attend these when they can.

### **Call for Abstracts 2001 Nevada Archeologist**

The 2001 *Nevada Archaeologist* will be a thematic issue focusing on archaeology education and outreach in Nevada. Some of you have already promised articles for this issue (you know who you are). The editors are requesting abstracts of approximately 100 words be sent to them by January 15, 2001. You may submit your abstracts on paper (to 2001 Nevada Archaeologist, at the NAA address), or directly by e-mail at: [annedu@dri.edu](mailto:annedu@dri.edu) (Anne DuBarton) or at [susane@dri.edu](mailto:susane@dri.edu) (Susan Edwards). We hope this will be an informative issue with your help.

### **Ting-Perkins Award Oyvind Frock**

At our December 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, the N.A.A. Board hopes to have nominations for this award to consider. Vol. 4, No. 1 (1983) of the *Nevada Archaeologist* was dedicated to Peter Ting, Sr., one of the names in the award.

This volume contains a collection of the articles Peter wrote as an avocational archaeologist. Perhaps a review of this issue will trigger a nominee's name. If it does, write a short resume of the nominee's activities and snail mail it to the chairman: Oyvind Frock, 3785 Falcon Way, Reno, NV 89509. For further information, telephone Oyvind at 775-826-8779.

### **Am-Arcs of Nevada**

Am-Arcs has resumed monthly meetings, held at the Desert Research Institute, 2215 Raggio Parkway, Reno, Nevada. Guest speakers since September include Amy Dansie, who spoke about Native American dogs, and Penny Rucks, who spoke about Washo milling equipment. In November, Am-Arcs members were treated to presentations by University of Nevada, Reno student archaeologists Leah Bonstead, Alyce Branigan, and Greg Haynes. The October field trip, the last of 2000, was to sites north of Wadsworth, including a visit to the Winnemucca Lake boat remains. Field trips will resume in the spring with anticipated improved weather.

### **Archeo-Nevada Society (A-NS) News**

Regular meetings and other activities started on September 14, 2000, at the Nevada State Museum and Historical Society in Lorenzi Park, Las Vegas. The guest speaker was John Fountain, of the Lunar and Planetary Laboratory, University of Arizona, Tucson, who spoke about his research in archeo-astronomy. The meetings have since shifted to the Community College of Southern Nevada, Charleston Campus.

The October speaker was Dr. Kevin Rafferty who gave a presentation on the peopling the of the Americas. The November speaker was Steve Daron, who gave a presentation on archaeological research at the Lake Mead National Recreation Area.

### **Elko County Chapter News**

The Elko County Chapter reports that they have 42 members. The members have been busy participating in a wide variety of activities, including excavations near the Elko City Dump and Elko Hills, the Culture Fair at the Great Basin College, and fund- raising yard sales. Recent speakers for the monthly meetings include Richa Wilson of the Forest Service, who spoke on architectural history, and Tim Murphy, who spoke on the Chinese in Carlin.

### **Southern Nevada Rock Art Enthusiasts (SNRAE)**

SNRAE has an informal gathering the first Thursday of the month and a more formal meeting, with a guest speaker, the third Thursday. Gatherings and meetings are at the Las Vegas Library at 7:00 p.m. Recent guest speakers were Bob Lawson, Harold Widdison, who spoke about the rock art of Baja California, and Chuck Kopenec. Upcoming speakers include Steve Daron (December), Galal Gough (January), and Evelyn Billo and Bob Mark (February). For Information on meetings and field trips call the SNRAE voice mail at 702-897-7878.

### **News of Nevada Archaeologists**

Alanah Woody has recently filled the Collections Manager position in the

Nevada State Museum in Carson City. This position was vacated by Amy Dansie, who retired after nearly 30 years of outstanding service.

Alanah received her BA and MA in Anthropology from the University of Nevada, Reno. She very recently completed her PhD in Archaeology at the University of Southampton, England. Her dissertation topic is on the Rock Art of Nevada, a research interest that she continues to work in.

Alan Simmons, professor of Anthropology at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas is goofing off in Costa Rica—re-hydrating after many years in the harsh Mojave Desert.

He reports, “I’m teaching this (fall) semester as part of UNLV’s International Studies program...I’m teaching intro archy and environmental archy at the National University in Costa Rica. It’s a

real change from the desert, that’s for sure! Trying to see some local sites as well, but Costa Rica is in the middle of northern (Aztec/Maya) and southern (Incan) developments--more of a crossroads. But, still pretty fantastic material...especially the gold! And elaborate ceramics, and jade....quite different from the desert!”

Arlene Benson, district archaeologist for the Tonopah Ranger Station retired last June. Arlene moved to Simi Valley, where she owns a house. She plans on continuing her research in rock art and ethnography. Arlene is the author of *The Noontide Sun: The Field Journals of the Reverend Stephen Bowers, Pioneer California Archaeologist* (1997, Ballena Press). We look forward to more books in the near future.

## **A BIT OF PREHISTORIC INDIVIDUALITY**

Oyvind Frock

Northeast of Sparks, Nevada there is a significant petroglyph site. Over the past year, Alvin McLane and I have been watching several glyphs that have positive interactions with the sun (McLane and Frock 2000). We have been at the site for the winter solstice, the cross quarter dates in May and August, the summer solstice, and the autumnal equinox. So far, four positive interacting glyphs have been photographed and recorded on some of these dates.

Adjacent to one of the interactive glyphs and close to another is an interesting rock we have labeled the “sitting stone” (Figure 1). This stone appears to have been selected by a particular person and placed in a particular spot by that person for a particular reason.

The stone is a sturdy, rectangular piece of basalt, roughly 9½ inches by 10 inches by 12 inches high. It was placed on a flat piece of bedrock basalt and shimmed on the north side to make the top level. No other evidence of modification was seen. From the sketch, you can see the circular glyph with four dots faces to the east where the sun rose at 122° at the winter solstice. The angle from the glyph to the sitting stone is 74°. This means a person sitting on the stone would not block the sun’s light from reaching the rock in front of the glyph that casts the shadow. By turning the head to the north, a person on the rock could see the asterisk-shaped glyph that also reacted positively to the winter solstice sunrise.



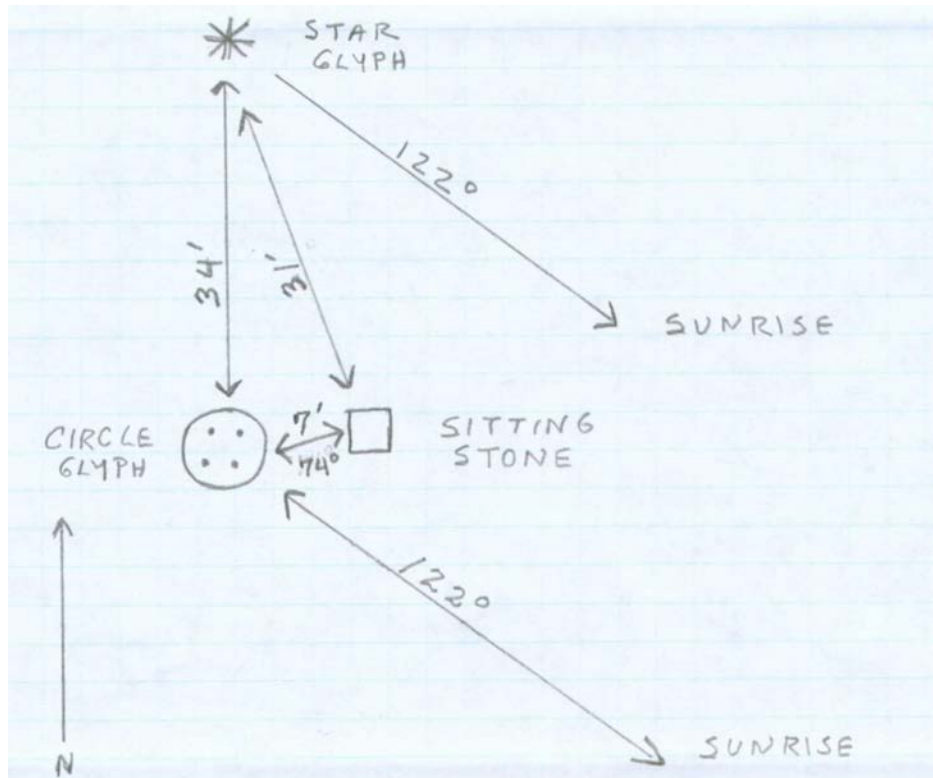


Figure 1. Sitting Stone Configuration.

It is interesting to speculate on the reasons for and uses of this stone. Did the carver of the glyph put it there so (s)he could sit and watch the play of the sun on the rocks before carving the glyphs? Was it used for resting while carving? Did the person sit on it facing the sun while it rose, and then turn to watch the shadow of the pointer rock move across the glyph? Did the observer sit on it facing the glyph rather than the sun? Were both glyphs monitored by swiveling one's head back and forth? Did the person's hip joints ache so that they did not want to sit on the ground? Was the stone used to stay out of the December snow? Or, was the rock placed there by someone other than the glyph carver? Who knows?

Every artifact reflects its maker to some degree. At times, it is possible to get a special glimpse of an individual through a finger print on a pot sherd, identical basketry or pottery designs, a cache of projectile points, or a shaman's pouch and its contents. More detailed looks at a person are possible with such occurrences as the Ice Man in the Alps and Spirit Cave man, but these communications from our ancestors are very rare. This rarity makes this particular stone all the more interesting.

#### REFERENCE CITED

McLane, Alvin and Oyvind Frock

2000 The Star Burst Solar Site, Pah Rah Range, Washoe County, Nevada. Paper presented at the 29<sup>th</sup> Nevada Archaeology Association Annual meeting, Ely, Nevada.

**ISLAND MOUNTAIN OR GOLD CREEK'S CHINATOWN  
ELKO COUNTY, NEVADA**

Sue Fawn Chung  
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

In 1873, Emanuel Penrod discovered a rich placer gold site in northeastern Nevada. Chinese miners who had been working in nearby Placerville, Mountain City, and Tuscarora, as well as in southern Idaho, heard about the discovery and flocked to Penrod's Camp. Penrod, who was born in Jacksonville County, Illinois, and had followed the Forty-Niner's out west, had been living and working in Genoa, Nevada, near Carson City, as a rancher when he decided to resume an interest in mining. He knew that the Chinese had constructed the irrigation canals in the Carson Valley and Genoa in 1855, and had worked on the ditches that contributed to the placer mining successes of Tuscarora. He also recognized the need for ditch construction to make his new discovery profitable, so he hired Chinese workers to construct the canals. They remained to mine.

A Chinese dominated community developed during the next three decades. According to the 1875 Nevada state census, over 50% of the adult population of Island Mountain (formerly Penrod's Camp) were Chinese (26 out of 50). Local estimates placed the number at 50 Chinese and only four Euro-Americans. Because of the high mobility of miners and the seasonal nature of placer mining in this area (a long season began in April and ended in September), an exact count was impossible. The federal census of 1880 listed 71 residents of Island Mountain: 54 (76%) Chinese, including 45 miners, six Native Americans, and eleven Euro-Americans. Unfortunately, fire destroyed the 1890 census manuscripts. By 1896, Penrod sold most of his holdings to the Gold Creek Mining and Milling Company, whose stockholders primarily resided in Salt Lake City, Utah and Denver, Colorado. The new company hired some 200 Chinese workers to construct and elaborate canal system and the Sunflower Reservoir to provide water for placer mining. The company also planned a new community about three miles away called Gold Creek, and renamed Island Mountain as Gold Creek's Chinatown.

By 1900, the character of Island Mountain (unofficially called Gold Creek from the federal perspective) changed as more Euro-American families settled in the community. Of the 91 residents, only five were Chinese. By 1910, only three residents out of 78 were Chinese and by 1920, the population had dwindled, and only one Chinese cook, Charlie King, who worked for the Hardman Hotel, lived there. In 1921 a fire destroyed most of the buildings in Gold Creek and 13 structures in Island Mountain gradually disappeared except for the foundations. Mining had yielded to ranching and the route between Elko, Nevada and Boise, Idaho was relocated ten miles to the west along the newly constructed Wild Horse Reservoir.



1903 Photograph of Island Mountain Chinese Community. Photo courtesy of Northeastern Nevada Museum.

From Island Mountain's beginnings, two Chinese merchants dominated the Chinese American community and ran the general merchandising store, Hong Lee, at 1 Peking Avenue. The brothers sold goods to Chinese and Euro-American customers, including travelers to and from Idaho, since the store was one of the stops en route. Hugh Martin, Jr., whose father served as postmaster of Island Mountain and whose family had befriended the Chinese, recalled:

[Lem] was a nice old Chinaman. Everyone liked him. He always had a little gift for every person who came to his store—a cigar, maybe, or a drink of Chinese brandy—or if the customer was a lady, he might give her a little Chinese silk handkerchief. After Lem died, the store was taken over by his brother, Hong Li, from Tuscarora. Hong was just as nice as Lem had been, and one or the other of the Li brothers was in business here for close to forty years.

Who were these brothers? From historical and government records, the name of their store was Hong Lee (variously spelled Hung Li), which means “Shared Profits” (*Tongli*) in Chinese. Chinese business partnership records in the National Archives and Records Administration in San Bruno, California revealed seven equal partners of the Hong Lee Company, Carlin (the closest large town some 75 miles away) in 1893. Of these partners, Ng (also spelled Ung) Lem Hong probably was the individual managing the Hong Lee store in Island Mountain. The name, however, was difficult for Euro-Americans to pronounce and the locals often called a Chinese merchant by his store name. In the 1900 federal census manuscript, Lee (last name), Hong (first name) was born September 1833, 66 years old, immigrated in 1878, and had been married for 42 years. In 1906, a Ng Nim Hong (Wu Linhong in pinyin) and several relatives, including Ng Ning (Wu Duhong in pinyin), donated \$2 to the San Francisco earthquake and fire



fund. Since the character “hong” appears in both Ng Lim Hong and Ng Ning’s Chinese names, there is a strong possibility that they were brothers and followed the Chinese practice of having the same character in part of their first formal names. Altogether, seven members of the Ng clan donated \$2 to the San Francisco relief fund. In the 1909 Elko County tax list, Hong Lee’s personal wealth was listed as \$650, making him among the wealthiest Chines in Elko County. The 1910 federal census manuscript listed “Lem, Hong” as a man aged 76 who had immigrated in 1860 and had been married for 56 years. Both men lived alone next door to Euro-Americans. Both men knew English. From county records, both men also could sign the company’s name, *Tongli*, in a skilled calligraphic hand, indicating a Chinese education.



Photograph of Lem, ca. 1910. Photo courtesy of the Northeast Nevada Museum.

Knowledge about the brothers has been augmented by a series of 1903 photographs taken by Hilda Mathey of Island Mountain, two photographs of Lem, oral interviews, particularly by Hugh Martin, Jr., and Della Baker Johns, and archaeological excavations done by the U.S. Forest Service and the University of Nevada, Reno in the summers of 1999 and 2000. The two photographs of Lem come from 1) the C. A. Laing Collection (taken circa 1910) showing the unimproved store front as it probably looked when built in the 1870s and 2) the Jesse Franklin Baker Collection (taken in 1915) showing an improved store front. Lem is dressed in typical Chinese clothing worn by Chinese Americans in the American West. He smokes a typical Chinese pipe. In 2000 archaeologists found an abacus (used to calculate the cost of items), a coffee grinder, cartridges, gaming pieces, opium pipes and cans, and a beautifully glazed Chinese whiskey bottle. From an oral interview with Della Baker Johns, Lem was described as a man who opposed opium smoking. The Baker brothers, who were freighters, transported

goods from Elko and Carlin to the Hong Lee store and probably carried items which Lem discovered he could ship to China for a profit, such as medicinal remedies. Lem and his friend, known as China Joe (Nep Shee in Cantonese, Ni Shu in pinyin), ate dinner at the Baker's and Martin's homes, an unusual social occurrence for the turn-of-the-twentieth-century. With the exception of rice, the meals were typical American fare. Both families also took care of Lem during illnesses and drove him to see a physician (probably one in Tuscarora) when needed. When China Joe died in 1915 while hunting, Hong Lee testified at the coroner's hearing. Hugh Martin, Jr., recalled that Hong Lee remembered China Joe during *Qinming*, the spring festival honoring the deceased, therefore, Hong Lee probably stayed in Island Mountain until at least 1916. What happened to him after that date is unknown.

Island Mountain was a multi-ethnic community with a relatively large Chinese population. In the late nineteenth-century, Chinese, Euro-Americans, and Native Americans lived together with very little of the discrimination and hostility that characterized the anti-Chinese movements of the 1870s-1890s. There was economic interdependence as the Chinese constructed and maintained the canal system and participated in placer mining, cooking, laundry, vegetable and fruit farming, and merchandising. The Native Americans in Island Mountain hunted and provided medical care through herbal remedies. A few of the Native American women married some of the Chinese men, who, because of the 1875 Page Law, essentially lived in a bachelor-like world. The Euro-Americans directed the mining and milling enterprises, as well as other jobs, and eventually formed long-lasting friendships with some of the Chinese. Island Mountain was an example of the dynamics of the frontier experience as people from different backgrounds came together and learned to live together.

## **A CLOVIS POINT BASE FROM CLARK COUNTY WETLANDS PARK**

By Heidi Roberts

During a recent archaeological survey of the east half of Clark County Wetlands Park, HRA, Inc. archaeologist Jamie Zehr found a Clovis point base (Site 26CK6000) north of Las Vegas Wash, just within the Park boundary. This point is the first Clovis point that has been found by an archaeologist in Clark County. An earlier report of a Clovis point recovered from a vandalized rock shelter (Bird Springs Rock shelter) is "problematic" (Ezzo 1995:38). A second point reported by Perkins (1967) from Site 26CK405 also cannot be verified. The site form for this site, on file at the Harry Reid Center, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, indicates that 26CK405 is a large roasting mound located near Blue Diamond. The form for 26CK405 makes no mention of a Clovis point.

Evidence of the Clovis tradition, primarily in the form of isolated projectile points, has been found in southern Nevada, southwestern Utah, southeastern California, and northwestern Arizona (Copeland and Fike 1988; Huckell 1982; Schroedl 1991; Tuohy 1985; Warren and Crabtree 1986; Warren and Phagen 1988; Warren 2000). Several Clovis points or point fragments have been reported in southern Nevada (Jones and Edwards 1994; Perkins 1967; Reno 1984). Three point fragments were reported in Lincoln County by R.F. Perkins, including two points from Site 26LN251 and a point

base from an unknown location (Perkins 1967). Perkins reported a fourth Clovis point from Clark County: it consists of a Clovis point fragment recovered from Site 26CK405, which is located 40 miles from Site 26LN251 (Perkins 1967). As stated previously Site 26CK405, as described by Perkins, does not appear to correspond to the site form on file at the Harry Reid Center. Perkins also reported a Folsom and a Sandia point from Las Vegas Valley (Perkins 1968). Clovis points have been identified by the Desert Research Institute at two sites near the Nevada Test Site and Yucca Mountain area of Nye County (Jones and Edwards 1994; IMACS site forms 26NY3191 and 8062 on file Desert Research Center). A Clovis point fragment has also been reported from the Nellis Range Air Force Base, between Goldfield and Scotty Junction in the vicinity of Stonewall Mountain (K.Myhrer, personal communication 2000).

In southwestern Utah, a complete Clovis point was found in the St. George area of Washington County (Kohl 1991: Figure 2), and two Clovis base fragments were reported from Iron County (Copeland and Fike 1988). Two radiocarbon dates obtained from a Paleo-Indian site (42Md300), located in the Sevier Desert of western Utah, suggest the stemmed and fluted assemblages date between 7,700 and 9,500 years ago (Simms and Lindsay 1989). More recently, a Clovis site was investigated by Abajo Archaeology west of Sevier Lake in Tule Valley, Utah. This site, known as the Hell’N Moriah Clovis site, was a single component retooling station where Clovis projectile points were manufactured, and broken points were replaced or resharpened (Davis et al. 1996).

One Clovis point fragment made of agate was reportedly found in extreme northwestern Arizona approximately six miles north of Littlefield in Sullivan’s Canyon (Huckell 1982:19). The point fragment was found in association with other flaked-stone tools and debitage that may not be the same age as the Clovis artifact (Huckell 1982:19).

Fluted points have been identified at sites in the Mojave Desert of California (Grayson 1993; Warren and Phagen 1988). Sites, as well as isolates, have been recorded in the China Lake area and at the Henwood Site on the Fort Irwin Military Reservation in southeastern California. Recently, Warren (2000) was able to date Clovis points in the China Lake Basin by reconstruction of the high lake levels of Searles Lake.

Although the point fragment that we found in Wetlands Park is the first reported Clovis point in the Las Vegas Valley, it is not the first Paleo-Indian period evidence from Las Vegas Wash. The Tule Springs area, located 11 miles northwest of Las Vegas on Las Vegas Wash, was investigated by Mark Raymond Harrington of the Southwest Museum during a series of expeditions between 1933 and 1956 (Harrington 1985; Harrington and Simpson 1961). The last expedition discovered a charcoal deposit with camel bones and tools associated. Although the site was not accepted as a legitimate Pre-Paleo-Indian locale (Fowler and Jennings 1982, Shutler 1967), the expedition collected remains of mammoths, camels, and stone tools. Later investigations at Tule Springs by Shutler (1967), Stein (1967), and Fitzwater (1967) identified seven chert and obsidian flakes (Locality 1), a quartzite scraper (Locality 4), and a possible awl and caliche bead (Locality 4a). All of these artifacts originated from radiocarbon dated strata that are at least 10,000 to 11,000 years old. Megafauna bones, not directly associated with the artifacts, were also recovered from these deposits.

When HRA archaeologists first found and recorded the Clovis point base in Clark County Wetlands no other artifacts were identified nearby (Roberts and Ahlstrom 2000).

However, during a subsequent visit to the site a single brown chert secondary flake was identified in a shallow rill located 22 m northeast of the point.

The Clovis point fragment and the flake were recorded as Site 26CK6000. The site is located on a gently sloping terrace 400 m north of the Las Vegas Wash floodplain on a well-formed desert pavement surface (Figure 2). The area near the site is mostly bare of vegetation, though creosote grows nearby.

The point base (Figure 1) was found lying on the pavement surface. Where the point contacted the pavement, it was heavily encrusted with lichen. J. Jeffrey Flenniken, of Lithic Analysts, has provided the following description of the fragment (Figure 1).

The proximal portion of this Clovis point was manufactured from white, heat treated, chalcedony, and is 4.9 cm long, 4.0 cm wide, and .7 cm thick. The channel flake scar on the obverse face terminated in a hinge at the break, while the channel flake scar on the reverse side extended to or passed the bending fracture that broke the point. The reverse face exhibits deterioration (pitting) as a result of being face-down on the surface for an extended period of time.

Both channel flakes were removed by direct free-hand percussion from the proximal or base of the point. Pressure guide flakes, located on either side of the channel flake platform, were removed prior to channel flake production (note remnant guide flake scar left of the channel flake scar on the obverse side). (See Wilke et al. 1991:263 for an illustration of guide flake removal). Pressure flakes were removed from the lateral margins after the channel flakes were produced (note on both obverse and reverse sides). This procedure suggests the lateral haft margins were not prepared completely for lateral haft polishing. Lateral haft margins were further prepared by alternate face spacing of pressure flakes, which created a very straight margin.

The lateral haft margins as well as the base were polished, not ground (Titmus and Woods 1991). This procedure was conducted to insure the sinew that tied the point into the fore-shaft was not cut as it crossed the point margins during the actual hafting process, and, as Titmus and Woods (1991) demonstrate, to strengthen the overall point and decrease breakage in the haft area. Basal dulling reduced fore-shaft splitting upon impact.

Three examples of impact damage are exhibited on this point base. First, the bending fracture most likely occurred as a result of the point bending, during use, at the end of the haft (fore-shaft). Hafting length is calculated on the basis of the extent of lateral margin polishing and channel flake scar length. Polished margins are present from the basal corners (ears) to approximately 1 cm below the bending fracture. As mentioned above, channel flake scars extend to the bending fracture. Second, the margins of the bending fracture have been flaked in a manner similar to the halves of the broken point crashing together during use/breakage while contained in an animal. Third, the "burin" scar on the margin (left on obverse side, right on reverse side) is also indicative of the point twisting during breakage, thus applying pressure on the broken corner at the margin and removing a short margin spall.

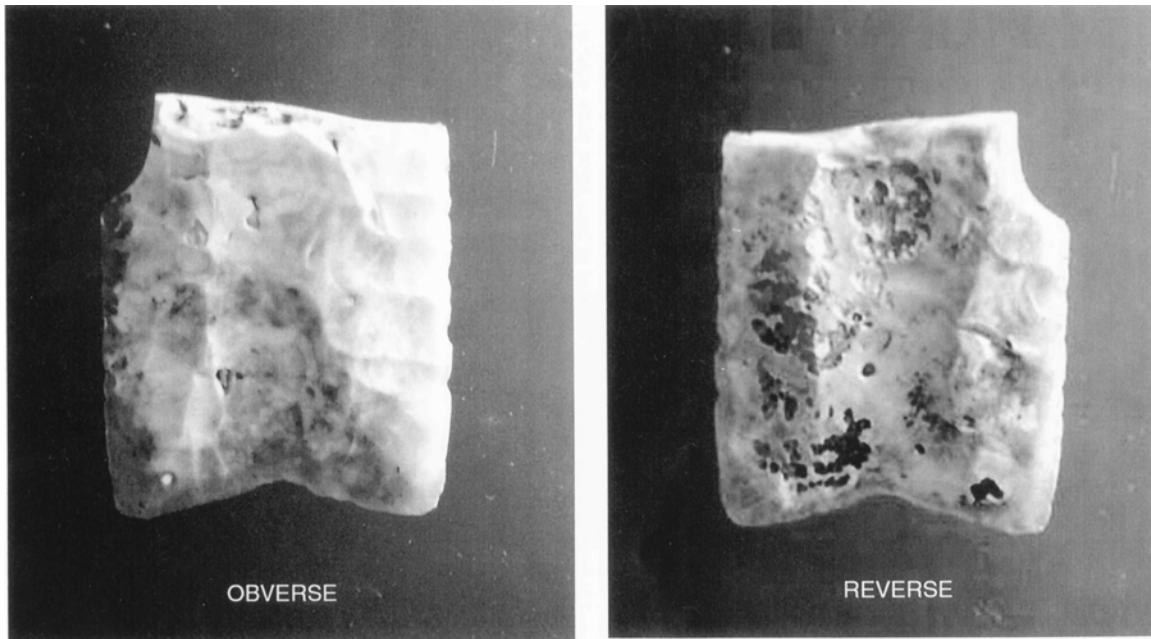


Figure 1. Clovis point fragment from Site 26CK6000.



Figure 2. Overview of Site 26CK6000, looking across Las Vegas Wash.



## REFERENCES

- Copeland, James M., and Richard E. Fike  
1988 Fluted Projectile Points in Utah. *Utah Archaeology* 1:5-28.
- Davis, William E., Dorothy Sack, and Nancy Shearin  
1996 The Hell'N Moriah Clovis Site. *Utah Archaeology* 9:55-70.
- Ezzo, Joseph A.  
1995 *A Class I Cultural Resources Survey for the Southern Nevada Water Authority Treatment and Transmission Facility, Clark County, Nevada*. Statistical Research Technical Series No. 55. Statistical Research, Tucson.
- Fitzwater, Robert  
1967 Localities 3 and 4A, Tule Springs, Nevada. In *Pleistocene Studies in Southern Nevada*, edited by H. M. Wormington and Dorothy Ellis, pp. 353-364. Nevada State Museum Anthropological Papers No. 13. Carson City.
- Fowler, Don D., and Jesse D. Jennings  
1982 Great Basin Archaeology: A Historical Overview. In *Man and the Environment in the Great Basin*, edited by David B. Madsen and James F. O'Connell, pp. 105-120. SAA Papers No. 2. Society for American Archaeology, Washington.
- Grayson, Donald K.  
1993 *The Desert's Past, A Natural Prehistory of the Great Basin*. Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington.
- Harrington, Marie  
1985 *On the Trail of Forgotten People*. Great Basin Press, Reno.
- Harrington, Mark R., and Ruth D. Simpson  
1961 *Tule Springs, Nevada with Other Evidences of Pleistocene Man in North America*. Southwest Museum Papers No. 18. Los Angeles.
- Huckell, Bruce B.  
1982 *The Distribution of Fluted Points in Arizona: A Review and Update*. Arizona State Museum Archaeological Series No. 145. University of Arizona, Tucson.
- Jones, Robert C., and Susan R. Edwards  
1994 A Clovis Point on the Nevada Test Site. *Nevada Archaeologist* 12:18-23.
- Kohl, Robert B.  
1991 Fluted Projectile Points in Southwestern Utah. *Utah Archaeology* 4:79-83.

- Perkins, R. F.  
 1967 Clovis-Like Points in Southern Nevada. *The Nevada Archaeological Survey Reporter* 9: 9-11.
- 1968 Folsom and Sandia Points from Clark County. *The Nevada Archaeological Survey Reporter* 2(4):4-5.
- Reno, Ron  
 1984 Clovis Projectile Points from Lahonton Reservoir and the Nevada Test Site. *Nevada Archaeologist* 5(1):7-9.
- Roberts, Heidi and Richard V.N. Ahlstrom  
 2000 *Fragile Past: Archaeological Investigations in Clark County Wetlands Park*. HRA Archaeological Report No. 00-03, HRA Inc., Las Vegas.
- Schroedl, Alan R.  
 1991 Paleo-Indian Occupation in the Eastern Great Basin and Northern Colorado Plateau. *Utah Archaeology* 1(1): 1-15.
- Shutler, Richard Jr.  
 1961 *Lost City: Pueblo Grande de Nevada*. Anthropological Papers No. 5. Nevada State Museum, Carson City.
- 1967 Cultural Chronology in Southern Nevada. In *Pleistocene Studies in Southern Nevada*, edited by H. M. Wormington and D. Ellis. Nevada State Anthropological Papers 13:304-308.
- Simms, Steven R. and La Mar W. Lindsay  
 1989 42MD300, An Early Holocene Site in the Sevier Desert. *Utah Archaeology* 2:56-66.
- Stein, Walter T.  
 1967 Locality 1 (C1-244), Tule Springs, Nevada. In *Pleistocene Studies in Southern Nevada*, edited by H. M. Wormington and Dorothy Ellis, pp. 307-329. Nevada State Museum Anthropological Papers, No. 13. Carson City.
- Titmus, G. L., and J. C. Woods  
 1991 A Closer Look at Margin "Grinding" on Folsom and Clovis Points. *Journal of California and Great Basin Anthropology* 13(2):194-203.
- Tuohy, Donald  
 1985 Notes on the Great Basin Distribution of Clovis Fluted and Folsom Projectile Points. *Nevada Archaeologist* 5(1):15-18.

Warren, Claude N.

2000 The Age of Clovis Points at China Lake. Paper presented at the 27th Great Basin Anthropological Conference, Ogden.

Warren, Claude N., and Robert H. Crabtree

1986 Prehistory of the Southwestern Area. In *Handbook of North American Indians, Volume 11: Great Basin*, edited by W.L. d'Azevedo, pp 183-193. Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington.

Warren, Claude N., and Carl Phagen

1988 Fluted Points in the Mojave Desert: Their Technology and Cultural Context. In *Early Human Occupation in Far Western North American: The Clovis-Archaic Interface*, edited by J. A. Willig, C. Melvin Aikens, and J. L. Fagan, pp. 121-130. Nevada State Museum Anthropological Papers 21. Carson City.

Wilke, P. J., J. J. Flenniken, and T. L. Ozburn

1991 Clovis Technology at the Anzick Site, Montana. *Journal of California and Great Basin Anthropology* 13 (2):242-272.

### **THIRD CLOVIS-LIKE POINT FOUND ON THE NEVADA TEST SITE**

Anne DuBarton

Desert Research Institute (DRI) archaeologist Kerry Varley found a basal fragment of a fluted projectile point on the Nevada Test Site (NTS) earlier this month while she was monitoring a previously filled trench. The point is made of chalcedony and measures 34.20 mm in width (see photo). The length is unknown since the point is broken.



This is the third Clovis style point found by DRI on the NTS during over twenty years of research. They appear to be few and far between in the southern Great Basin.