

A REPORT ON FOUR SITES IN MADISON COUNTY

(41MA27 – 41MA30)



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INTRODUCTION

The four sites discussed here are on private property on the east side of the Navasota River in western Madison County (Figure 1). They are significant in that they represent the only sites in the county where a large collection of artifacts has been made available for study. Most of the 41 known prehistoric sites in Madison County were identified and recorded by archaeologists during a cultural resources survey that did not progress beyond the Phase I survey stage. As a result, artifact collections from these sites were made in a short period of time and were small. The landowners have collected artifacts from the four sites discussed here for at least 15 years, and this has resulted in a sample that is worthy of documenting. The discussion of artifact types is based on my experience with specimens in the area and assistance from other professional archaeologists. These sites are depicted on the USGS 7.5' topographic quadrangles Canary and Clear Lake (Figure 2).

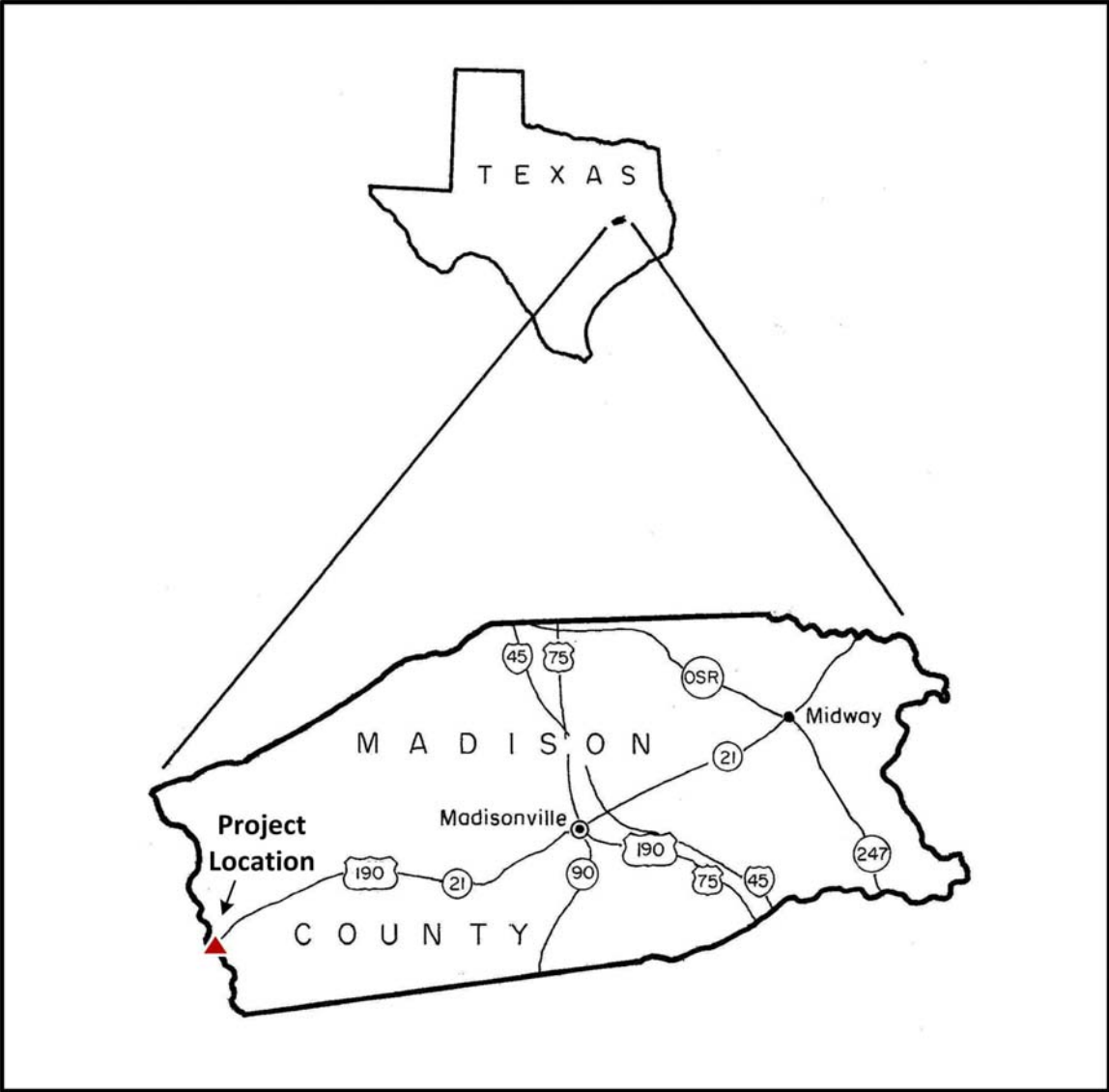


Figure 1. General Location Map

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due to sensitive information.**

Figure 2. Project Area on Topographic Quadrangles

ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

Madison County encompasses 480 square miles of land and ranks number 238 among the 254 Texas counties in terms of its size (Moore 1983:28). The county is drained by the Navasota River that forms its western boundary, the Trinity River that forms its eastern boundary, and several creeks in the rest of the county. Madison County shares a common border with Leon County on the north, Houston County on the north and east, Walker and Grimes counties on the south, Brazos County on the south and west, and Robertson County on the northwest.

When the Department of Antiquities Protection, Texas Historical Commission published a planning document entitled *Archeology in the Eastern Planning Region, Texas: A Planning Document* (Kenmotsu and Perttula 1993), Madison County was included in the Prairie Savanna Archeological Study Region of the Eastern Planning Region (Kenmotsu and Perttula 1993:Figure 1.1.2) (Figure 3). This area shares a common border with the Northeast Texas and Southeast Texas study regions. It is, therefore, logical to assume that shared cultural traits exist between Madison County and the adjacent regions.

Madison County is poorly represented in the archaeological record in terms of numbers of site recorded. According to the TARL site records, there are 44 documented sites in Madison County (Table 1). Forty sites are prehistoric or have prehistoric components mixed with historic materials (Table 2), and eight sites are historic or have a historic component mixed with a prehistoric component (Table 3). In 1997, Madison County contained 0.001 - 0.1 sites per square mile and was one of the counties with the lowest density of recorded sites in Texas (Kenmotsu and Perttula (1993:11). The reason for the small number of recorded sites in the county is related to the size of the county and lack of large-scale development in the area. The majority of known sites in Madison County (n=31) were recorded during the three largest investigations: Millican Reservoir, Arbuckle Pipeline, and the Navidad Resources Pipeline project. According to the *Abstracts in Texas Contract Archeology* series compiled by William E. Moore and William A. Martin from 1987 to 1992, the only archaeological study during this time was the reconnaissance of archaeological and historical resources in the Navasota River Basin by Sorrow and Cox in 1973. Sites were recorded in 1960 (n=1), 1972 (n=1), 1974 (n=1), 1982 (n=17), 1989 (n=2), 1998 (n=1), 2000 (n=1), 2005 (n=4), 2008 (n=7), and 2011 (n=8). The date that site 41MA1 was recorded is not known, but it probably was 1960 or earlier.

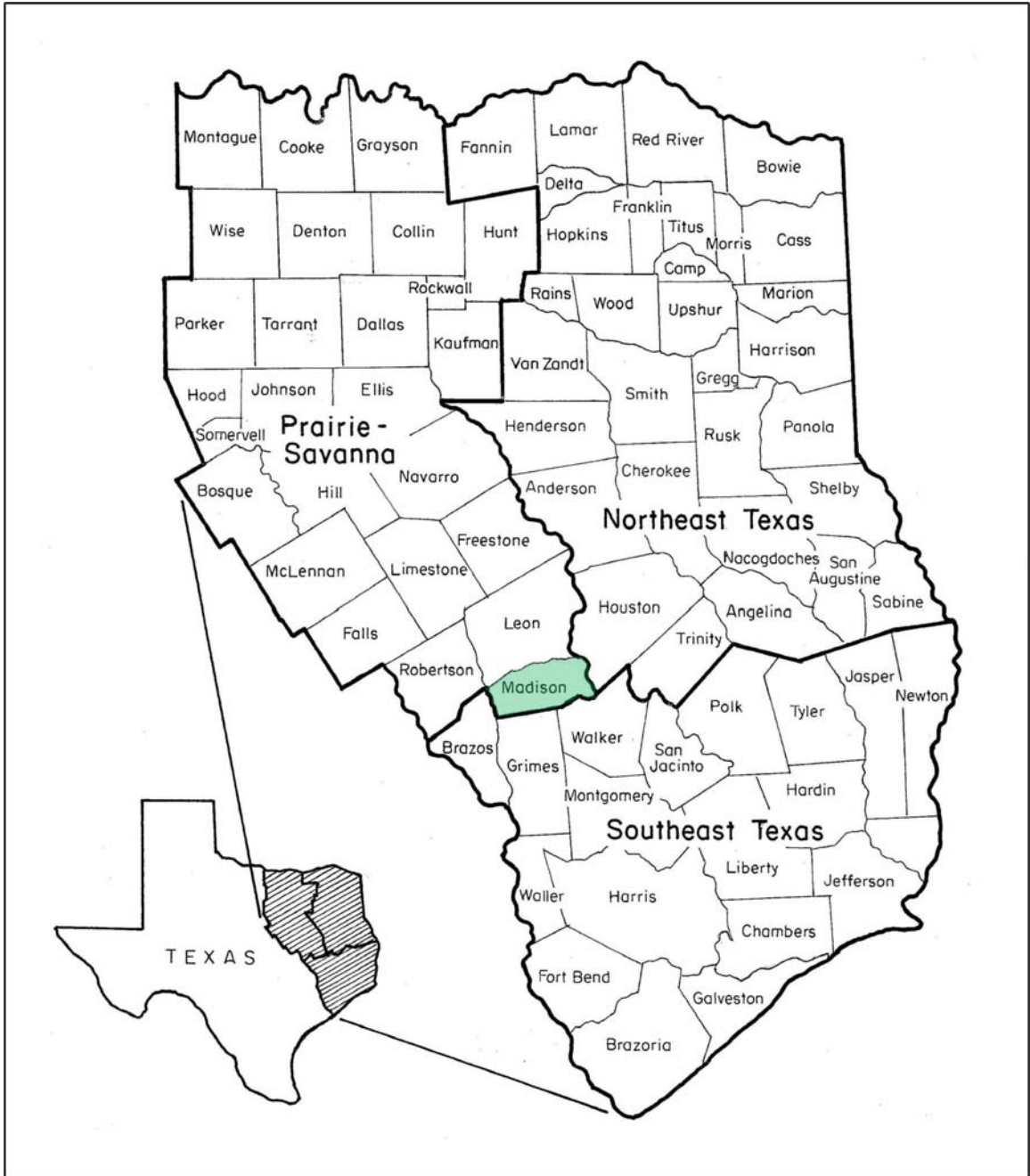


Figure 3. Region Map

Table 1. Recorded Sites in Madison County

Site	Age	Type of Site	Reference
41MA1	P	camp with burials	TARL site card
41MA2	P/H	unknown	TARL site card
41MA3	P	unknown	TARL site card
41MA4	P	camp	Harry J. Shafer (site form dated 1974)
41MA5	P	lithic scatter	Steven M. Kotter (1982)
41MA6	P	isolated find	Steven M. Kotter (1982)
41MA7	H	bridge	Steven M. Kotter (1982)
41MA8	P	lithic scatter	Steven M. Kotter (1982)
41MA9	P	lithic scatter	Steven M. Kotter (1982)
41MA10	P	isolated find	Steven M. Kotter (1982)
41MA11	H	pilings	Steven M. Kotter (1982)
41MA12	P	isolated find	Steven M. Kotter (1982)
41MA13	H	trash scatter	Steven M. Kotter (1982)
41MA14	P	isolated find	Steven M. Kotter (1982)
41MA15	P	lithic scatter	Steven M. Kotter (1982)
41MA16	H	structures	Steven M. Kotter (1982)
41MA17	P	lithic scatter	Steven M. Kotter (1982)
41MA18	P	two flakes	Steven M. Kotter (1982)
41MA19	P	lithic scatter	Steven M. Kotter (1982)
41MA20	P	isolated find	Steven M. Kotter (1982)
41MA21	P	lithic scatter	Jane Rathbun (1982)
41MA22	P	unknown	William E. Moore (1989)
41MA23	H	log crib	William E. Moore (1989)
41MA24	n/a	no site	no site form for this site
41MA25	P	lithic scatter	Molly F. Godwin (1998)
41MA26	P	camp	William E. Moore (2000)
41MA27	P	camp	William E. Moore (2005)
41MA28	P	camp	William E. Moore (2005)
41MA29	P	camp	William E. Moore (2005)
41MA30	P	camp	William E. Moore (2005)
41MA31	P	unknown	Timothy K. Perttula and Bo Nelson (2008)
41MA32	P	unknown	Timothy K. Perttula and Bo Nelson (2008)
41MA33	P	unknown	Timothy K. Perttula and Bo Nelson (2008)
41MA34	P	unknown	Timothy K. Perttula and Bo Nelson (2008)
41MA35	P	unknown	Timothy K. Perttula and Bo Nelson (2008)
41MA36	P	camp	Timothy K. Perttula and Bo Nelson (2008)
41MA37	P	unknown	Timothy K. Perttula and Bo Nelson (2008)
41MA38	P	unknown	Timothy K. Perttula and Bo Nelson (2011)
41MA39	P	unknown	Timothy K. Perttula and Bo Nelson (2011)
41MA40	P/H	unknown	Timothy K. Perttula and Bo Nelson (2011)
41MA41	P/H	unknown	Timothy K. Perttula and Bo Nelson (2011)
41MA42	P	unknown	Timothy K. Perttula and Bo Nelson (2011)
41MA43	P	unknown	Timothy K. Perttula and Bo Nelson (2011)
41MA44	P	unknown	Timothy K. Perttula and Bo Nelson (2011)
41MA45	P	unknown	Timothy K. Perttula and Bo Nelson (2011)

Table 2. Prehistoric Sites

Site	Age	Type of Site	Reference
41MA1	P	camp with burials	TARL site card
41MA2	P/H	unknown	TARL site card
41MA3	P	unknown	TARL site card
41MA4	P	camp	Harry J. Shafer (site form dated 1974)
41MA5	P	lithic scatter	Steven M. Kotter (1982)
41MA6	P	isolated find	Steven M. Kotter (1982)
41MA8	P	lithic scatter	Steven M. Kotter (1982)
41MA9	P	lithic scatter	Steven M. Kotter (1982)
41MA10	P	isolated find	Steven M. Kotter (1982)
41MA11	H	pilings	Steven M. Kotter (1982)
41MA12	P	isolated find	Steven M. Kotter (1982)
41MA14	P	isolated find	Steven M. Kotter (1982)
41MA15	P	two flakes	Steven M. Kotter (1982)
41MA17	P	lithic scatter	Steven M. Kotter (1982)
41MA18	P	two flakes	Steven M. Kotter (1982)
41MA19	P	lithic scatter	Steven M. Kotter (1982)
41MA20	P	isolated find	Steven M. Kotter (1982)
41MA21	P	flakes	Jane Rathbun (1982)
41MA22	P	unknown	William E. Moore (1989)
41MA25	P	lithic scatter	Molly Godwin (1998)
41MA26	P	camp	William E. Moore (2000)
41MA27	P	camp	William E. Moore (2005)
41MA28	P	camp	William E. Moore (2005)
41MA29	P	camp	William E. Moore (2005)
41MA30	P	camp	William E. Moore (2005)
41MA31	P	unknown	Timothy K. Perttula and Bo Nelson (2008)
41MA32	P	unknown	Timothy K. Perttula and Bo Nelson (2008)
41MA33	P	unknown	Timothy K. Perttula and Bo Nelson (2008)
41MA34	P	unknown	Timothy K. Perttula and Bo Nelson (2008)
41MA35	P	unknown	Timothy K. Perttula and Bo Nelson (2008)
41MA36	P	camp	Timothy K. Perttula and Bo Nelson (2008)
41MA37	P	unknown	Timothy K. Perttula and Bo Nelson (2008)
41MA38	P	unknown	Timothy K. Perttula and Bo Nelson (2011)
41MA39	P	unknown	Timothy K. Perttula and Bo Nelson (2011)
41MA40	P/H	unknown	Timothy K. Perttula and Bo Nelson (2011)
41MA41	P/H	unknown	Timothy K. Perttula and Bo Nelson (2011)
41MA42	P	unknown	Timothy K. Perttula and Bo Nelson (2011)
41MA43	P	unknown	Timothy K. Perttula and Bo Nelson (2011)
41MA44	P	unknown	Timothy K. Perttula and Bo Nelson (2011)
41MA45	P	unknown	Timothy K. Perttula and Bo Nelson (2011)

Table 3. Historic Sites

Site	Age	Type of Site	Reference
41MA2	P/H	unknown	TARL site card
41MA7	H	bridge	Steven M. Kotter (1982)
41MA11	H	pilings	Steven M. Kotter (1982)
41MA13	H	trash scatter	Steven M. Kotter (1982)
41MA16	H	structures	Steven M. Kotter (1982)
41MA23	H	log crib	William E. Moore (1989)
41MA40	P/H	unknown	Timothy K. Perttula and Bo Nelson (2011)
41MA41	P/H	unknown	Timothy K. Perttula and Bo Nelson (2011)

CHRONOLOGY

Paleoindian Stage

It is generally accepted that the Paleoindian Stage in this part of Texas dates to sometime between 11,500 years Before Present (B.P.) and 8000 B.P. (Bousman et al. 2004). Ensor et al. (1991:8-10) discuss the most common Paleoindian projectile point types found in inland Southeast Texas. According to their research, these are Angostura, Clovis, Folsom, Golondrina, and Plainview. The San Patrice point is viewed by some archaeologists as a transitional type between the Paleoindian and Archaic stages. The only evidence of this time period in Madison County consists of three Angostura point fragments and a Pelican point found at site 41MA27. These specimens are described and illustrated in Appendix I. Most Paleoindian points were made from high-grade lithic material not found in Southeast Texas, and Ricklis (2004:184) believes that this is an indication of a widespread movement of people and materials. Few sites attributed to the period have been documented. In adjacent Montgomery County, the Scott's Ridge site (41MAQ41) is an example of a camp that dates to the Late Paleoindian or Early Archaic stages based on the presence of a San Patrice point and other stemmed biface forms not present in later sites plus an absence of ceramics (Shafer and Stearns 1975:37). This project successfully tested the hypothesis that prehistoric sites having considerable antiquity do occur on older landforms in the area. Bousman et al. (2004) compiled a very comprehensive discussion of Paleoindian archaeology in Texas, and this is one of the most current sources of information on this period of Texas prehistory.

Archaic Stage

The Archaic Stage in inland Southeast Texas dates from circa 8000 years Before Present (B.P.) to 1500 B.P. (Ricklis 2004:184). During this period, there was an increase in the number of projectile point types that were mainly fashioned from local materials such as low-grade chert, quartzite, jasper, opal, and silicified wood. Story et al. (1990) believes that the use of local materials suggests a decrease in mobility and more tightly defined group territories. Ensor et al. (1991:8-10) discusses the most common Archaic projectile point types found in inland Southeast Texas sites. According to their research, these are Early Side Notched and Early Corner Notched (Early Archaic); Carrollton, Palmillas, Trinity, and Yarbrough (Middle Archaic); and Gary/Kent (Late Archaic). In addition to the projectile points, scrapers, adzes, knives, and other tools are present. It should be stated here that not all artifacts that appear to be projectile points were used solely for that purpose. Microscopic analysis has revealed wear patterns on some specimens that indicate they may have been used as knives, perhaps while hafted. Archaic sites are typically found on sandy hills and terraces in close proximity to dependable sources of water.

Faunal and macro-botanical materials are rare at inland Archaic sites, and Ricklis (2004:185) believes this “precludes the drawing of inferences about adaptive patterns beyond the assumption of some mix of hunting-and-gathering subsistence practices.” Artifacts that date to this period have been reported at seven sites in Madison County (41MA2, 41MA4, 41MA8, 41MA27, 41MA28, 41MA29, and 41MA30). Archaic specimens from the current study area are described and illustrated in Appendix I.

Late Prehistoric Stage

The Late Prehistoric Stage in inland Southeast Texas dates from circa A.D. 700 to A.D. 1500 with the introduction of the bow and arrow and ceramics and lasted until the Historic Stage that could be as late as A.D. 1700. Ensor et al. (1991:8-10) discusses the most common arrow point types found in inland Southeast Texas sites. According to their research, these are Alba, Bonham, Catahoula, Clifton, Friley, Perdiz, and Scallorn. In addition to the projectile points, scrapers, adzes, knives, and other tools are present. Sandy hills and terraces were still the areas selected for camps. The increase in the number of sites during this period suggests a population increase. The most common arrow points are Alba, Bonham, Catahoula, and Perdiz. Sandy hills and terraces were still the areas selected for camps. Sites in Madison County that date to this period are 41MA2, 41MA3, 41MA4, 41MA5, 41MA10, 41MA27, 41MA28, 41MA29, 41MA30, and 41MA36. Late Prehistoric specimens from the current study area are described and illustrated in Appendix I.

Historic Indians

There are no known sites in Madison County that can be identified as historic Indian. The Akokisa and Bidais lived in the general area during the early 1800s, but there were no large bands of historic Indians living in present-day Madison County and the surrounding area by 1830 (Aten 1983:Figure 3.2). Remnants of these groups remained in the region, and this is documented in a diary by Becky Lee who stated that there was a small camp of Bidais and Akokisa near her place in northwestern Harris County who were there until at least 1918, well into the 20th century. They were living in hide tents on the same kinds of floodplain mounds where sites were later found during a survey by Moore Archeological Consulting on Cypress Creek (Moore 1992:44). They still spoke their native language that is assumed to be Atakapan. The reminiscences of Ms. Lee are presented in Moore’s report as Appendix II.

According to Kenmotsu and Perttula (1993:44), sites attributed to the historic Caddo are present in the region, but not one such site has been documented in Madison County. One probable Caddo sherd was found at site 41MA29 in the current study area. Caddo sherds and a four-beveled knife were found at site 41BZ102 in adjacent Brazos County, and artifacts associated with this group have been found throughout the region. The nearest major Caddo village is the George C. Davis site (41CE19) in Cherokee County.

Historic Sites

Historic sites are numerous and can be found virtually anywhere on the landscape since they are not always linked to a water source. In rural Madison County, historic sites consist of farmsteads and their associated outbuildings and features, cemeteries, and bridges. A log crib (41MA23) was recorded on the farm where sites 41MA27 – 41MA30 are located. Terry G. Jordan's (1982) book on Texas log buildings has a chapter on rural log outbuildings that discusses log cribs. In urban areas, there are numerous structures (residential and commercial) that are greater than fifty years of age and some are potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Since the focus of this article is the four prehistoric sites, an in-depth discussion of the Historic period and the sites that it has spawned will not be presented.

PREVIOUS INVESTIGATIONS

The only information for 41MA1 is on the site card at TARL. It is described as a large campsite and cemetery with mounds on a tributary of Bedias Creek. The recorder is believed to be M. M. Reynolds, but the date it was recorded as at site is not stated. Black-and-white negatives are on file at TARL in the Madison County miscellaneous files. It is not known if artifacts were collected and where they are housed.

Edward B. Jelks and Lathel F. Duffield recorded 41MA2 based on artifacts exposed in a road cut on State Highway 21 near the town of Midway in 1960. Artifacts observed and collected are described as arrow points, dart points, worked flint, majolica sherds, and a lead ball. The only information available is the site card at TARL. The artifacts are curated at TARL.

William M. Sorrow recorded 41MA3 in 1972 during a survey for the Trinity River Canalization project in 1972. According to the site form, 41MA3 is in the northwest corner of the county on a terrace adjacent to Youngs Creek. The only artifacts observed were a large prehistoric ceramic sherd and a biface made of silicified wood. These artifacts are curated at TARL.

In 1973, archaeologists employed by the Texas Archeological Survey (Sorrow and Cox 1973) conducted a preliminary archeological reconnaissance of the Navasota River Basin, the area to be affected by the proposed Millican Lake on the Navasota River. Most of the area investigated is in Brazos and Grimes counties, but a small portion lies in Madison County. This project was conducted for the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Little Rock District under contract DACW 03-73-C-0086. A large portion of the project area was not examined due to standing water and impassable roads. The method used to locate sites was a surface inspection that concentrated on areas of exposed dirt associated with rodent burrows. The authors (Sorrow and Cox 1973:3) admit that their study "simply provides the foundation for future investigations which, it is hoped, will not only seek to locate new sites but to evaluate by means of selective subsurface testing." Prior to the 1973 field season, only twelve sites were known within the Navasota River Basin. No previously recorded sites were known to exist in the Madison County portion of the proposed reservoir, and no new sites were found in that area.

Harry J. Shafer recorded 41MA4 in 1974 as a prehistoric site on private property on Curey Creek about two miles south of Madisonville. Artifacts observed or collected are listed on the site form as Gary and Kent dart points; an arrow point; Caddoan-like pottery; lithic debris of flint, quartzite, and silicified wood; deer bone; and human bone fragments. Shafer describes this site as an occupation area and burial site that was badly disturbed due to the removal of sand for commercial purposes.

The next investigation in the county that resulted in the documentation of new sites was the Millican Reservoir project in the Navasota River Basin in Brazos, Grimes, Leon, Madison, and Robertson counties (Kotter 1982). This investigation was conducted by archaeologists from the contract firm Prewitt & Associates, Inc. in 1981 for the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District under contract DACW63-81-C-0141. Although Kotter (1982:7) admits that "Surface examination has demonstrated the need for selective testing," the project area was examined by a surface inspection without shovel tests or probes. This project recorded 122 new sites that represent 109 prehistoric and 22 historic components. In Madison County, 16 sites (41MA5 – 41MA20) were recorded. The prehistoric sites consist of seven lithic scatters and five isolated finds. Only three of the prehistoric sites yielded diagnostic artifacts. An arrow point (type not stated) was found at 41MA5, and unidentified dart points believed to date to the Late Archaic were found at sites 41MA8 and 41MA10. The four historic sites consist of a possible bridge made of brick, five on the banks of the Navasota River at a place known as Bundy's Crossing, a trash scatter found at the location of a habitation site, and two L-shaped structures connected by porches that may date to the 19th century. The artifacts for sites 41MA5, 41MA8, 41MA9, and 41MA10 are curated at TARL.

Site 41MA21 was recorded in 1982 by archaeologists from Espey Huston & Associates, Inc. (Rathbun 1982) during a survey for a proposed transmission line. This job was performed for the Brazos Electric, and the Federal agency was REA. This site is located on a high sandy knoll near Kickapoo Creek. It was recorded as a prehistoric site based on five flakes found in a shovel test. One flake was observed on an adjacent knoll, and the recorders believe this landform may be an extension of site 41MA21.

It was seven years before another site was recorded in Madison County. In 1989, William E. Moore observed flakes and ceramic sherds in eroded areas within the right-of-way of State Highway 21 on the east bank of the Navasota River, and it seems probable that the site probably includes the landform on the opposite side of the highway. This area was recorded at TARL as 41MA22. When Moore visited the landowner he observed a double pen log crib in very good condition that was constructed about 75 years ago. This structure was recorded at TARL as 41MA23. It was later demolished by the current landowners.

There is no site form for 41MA24. According to Jonathan Jarvis at TARL, this number was apparently overlooked when the next site was recorded.

In 1998, archaeologists from Antiquities Planning & Consulting (Godwin et al. 1998) conducted an archaeological survey of three five-acre borrow pit sites on the Ellis, Ferguson, and Wynne units of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice in Madison and Walker counties. Prehistoric site 41MA25 was recorded as a possible campsite in an upland setting. Artifacts observed consist of debitage made from jasper, chert, and silicified wood; unmodified flakes, one possible pebble tool, fire-cracked rock, and small mammal bone fragments that had been exposed to fire. This site was determined to not have significant research potential.

William E. Moore (2000) conducted an archaeological survey along State Highway 21 for the Texas Department of Transportation from North Zulch to Madisonville in 2000. One prehistoric camp (41MA26) was recorded on a sandy terrace overlooking the floodplain of Iron Creek. No features were observed and the only artifacts recovered were chert flakes. That portion of the site within the highway right-of-way was not considered to be significant and no further work was recommended. The artifacts are curated at TARL.

In 2005, William E. Moore visited a farm adjacent to the Navasota River and recorded four prehistoric sites (41MA27 – 41MA30). These sites are on private land and the landowner allowed two specialists to analyze the lithics and ceramics (see discussion of these sites below). Three sites are located on sandy hills near the river. At site 41MA27, 136 projectile points and about 20 pieces of prehistoric pottery had been collected along with numerous flakes and miscellaneous bifaces. Projectile points, and a large number of flakes were found at 41MA28. These artifacts were found on the bank of the river and it is suspected that they washed down from a sand hill nearby. Seventeen pieces of pottery and five projectile points were found at 41MA29 and 19 pieces of pottery, seven projectile points, and a few bifaces were found at site 41MA30. Occupation of this area may have begun during the Paleoindian period based on the presence of a few early projectile points and the sites were definitely occupied during the Archaic and Late Prehistoric periods. Some of the sherds have been identified as Caddo or Caddo-like.

In 2008, Archeological & Environmental Consultants, LLC conducted an archaeological survey for the Arbuckle Pipeline project. Seven prehistoric sites (41MA31 – 41MA37) were recorded (Perttula and Nelson 2008). At six sites the only cultural evidence consisted of lithic debris and these sites were classified as unknown prehistoric and considered to be not significant. Site 41MA36 yielded ceramics, a Perdiz arrow point, lithic debris, a piece of daub, and charred material. This area is believed to be a prehistoric camp with research potential, and it was recommended that the site be avoided.

The last project to record sites in Madison County was a survey for the Navidad Resources Pipeline project in 2011 by Archeological & Environmental Consultants, LLC (Perttula and Nelson 2011). This study located and recorded six prehistoric sites (41MA38, 41MA39, 41MA42, 41MA43, 41MA44, and 41MA45) and two multi-component sites with prehistoric and historic artifacts (41MA40 and 41MA41). The majority of the prehistoric sites (n=6) were identified on the basis of lithic debitage and are best described as unknown prehistoric. Diagnostic artifacts were found at two sites and identified as Yarbrough (41MA42) and a possible Palmillas (41MA44), and their presence suggests an Archaic occupation. The historic components consist of trash scatters that date to the early 20th century and are probably the remains of habitation sites. The artifacts collected during this project are curated at TARL.

SITE DISCUSSIONS

41MA27

This prehistoric campsite is situated on a sand hill on the east bank of the Navasota River at an elevation of 230 feet above mean sea level in western Madison County. It is depicted on the United States Geological Survey 7.5' Canary and Clear Lake topographic quadrangles. The site was first discovered when the current landowners removed sand from the hill in order to obtain sand for fill during barn construction. The site occupies a landform that is approximately 6.5 acres in size. It is estimated that 5% of this area has been disturbed due to past and current quarrying of sand for the barn, a road and other projects. Cultural features observed include burned rock and charcoal at three locations in the cut bank profile created when barn foundation was constructed. These features were observed to a depth of about 1.2 meters. Other forms of disturbance are erosion and wallows by feral hogs. Although no controlled excavation has been conducted, the profile created by road construction depicts a depth of sandy soil over clay to a depth of 3.75 meters (Figure 4).

This is a very rich site in terms of artifacts that date from the Paleoindian to the Late Prehistoric periods of Texas prehistory. Artifacts available for study include numerous dart points, arrow points, arrow point preforms, a possible gouge or adze; drills; one unifacial end scraper; one probable graver; one eccentric; bifaces and biface fragments, and numerous flakes and other forms of debitage. The lithic artifacts from this site are described and illustrated in Appendix I. The ceramics from this site consists of one decorated rim sherd, sixteen plain body sherds and three base sherds. Most of the sherds (90%) have a sandy paste that ranges from fine to coarse, and the few sherds that are tempered have either bone (n=2) or grog (n=3). The sherds are from vessels that are fairly thick, and this suggests that they represent the remains of jars (Perttula 2012).

The combination of a deeply stratified site with features that may contain datable materials and a large number of diagnostic artifacts suggests that site 41MA27 may be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

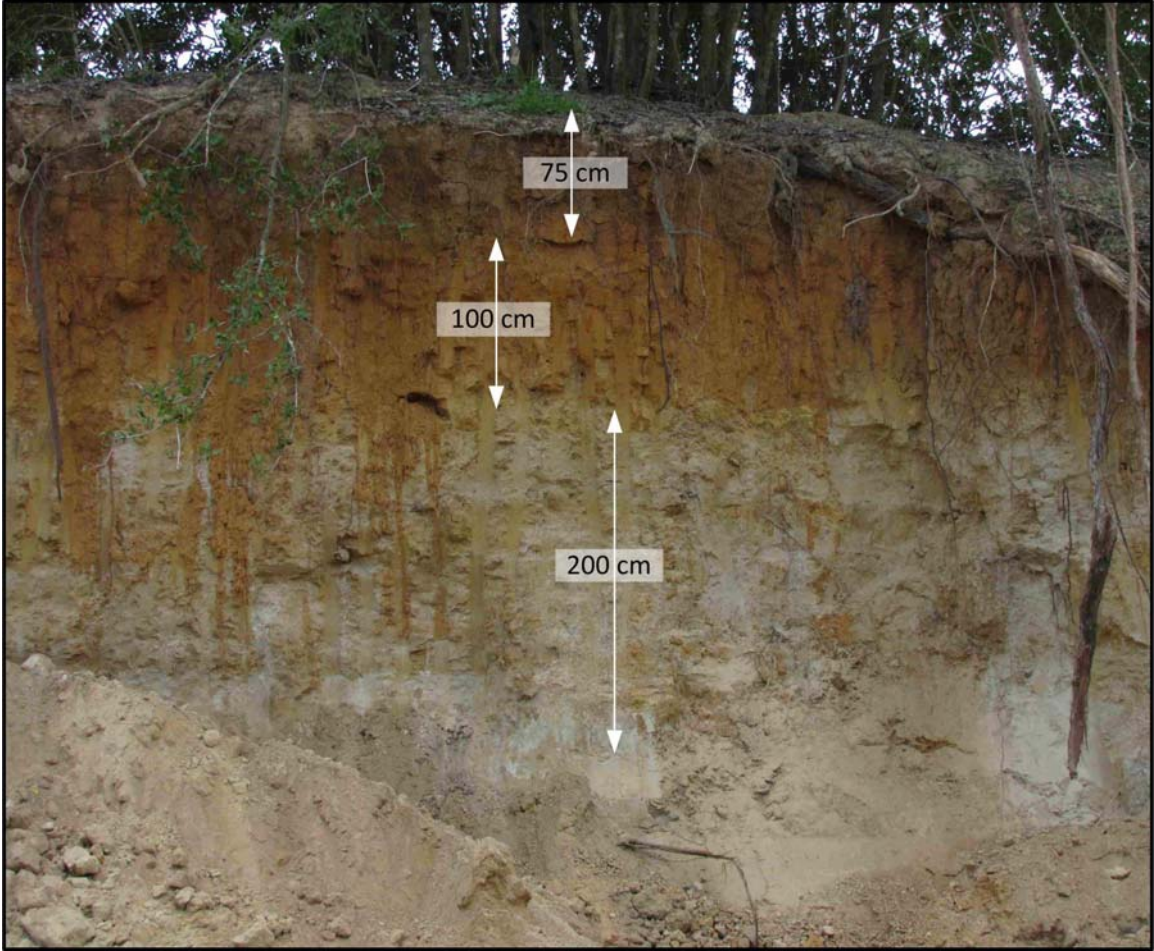


Figure 4. Profile of Site 41MA27

41MA28

This site is situated on the south bank of the Navasota River at an elevation of 230 feet above mean sea level in eastern Madison County. It is depicted on the United States Geological Survey 7.5' Canary topographic quadrangle. The site was first discovered when the current owner observed a large projectile point on the surface. Artifacts observed and/or collected include broken dart points, two arrow points, miscellaneous bifaces, numerous flakes, and a possible nutting stone. The arrow point depicted below (Figure 5) is the only diagnostic specimen from this site that was available for analysis. This is a unifacial arrow point made from chert. Although the stem is broken, this specimen closely resembles the Perdiz type. This site is unusual in that all artifacts were found on the bank of the river instead of a sandy hill or terrace. There is a sand hill approximately 150 meters to the east, but no evidence of a site has been observed in this area. It is possible that the artifacts found here were transported to this area during floods. This site is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.



Figure 5. Perdiz Arrow Point from 41MA28
(base is broken)

41MA29

This prehistoric campsite is situated on a sand hill overlooking a relict channel of the Navasota River at an elevation of 240 feet above mean sea level in eastern Madison County. It is 150 meters due east of 41MA27 and 215 meters due north of 41MA30. Site 41MA29 is depicted on the United States Geological Survey 7.5' Canary topographic quadrangle. This site was first discovered when the current owner cultivated the area for pasture. The major disturbance to this site is due to agricultural activities, erosion, and wallows by feral hogs. To date, five projectile points, seventeen ceramic sherds, and numerous flakes have been collected by the owner. The ceramics are the only artifacts that were available for analysis. No Cultural features were observed. The size of this site is estimated to be four acres based on the extent of the area where artifacts were found.

The ceramics from this site consists of one sandy paste plain rim and sixteen plain body sherds. Most of the sherds (88%) have a sandy paste that ranges from fine to coarse, while two sherds have a clayey to silty paste and are tempered with grog or bone and grog. The sherds from 41MA29 are from moderately thin vessels that are slightly thinner than the sherds from sites 41MA27 and 41MA30, and they probably represent fragments of jars and simple bowls. Four of the body sherds (Figure 6a-d) are decorated. The specimen illustrated in Figure 6b has a partially smoothed-over parallel-brushed decoration. Although the orientation of the brushing is not definitive, it was probably a vertical decoration on the body of a utility ware jar. This sherd is very likely from a vessel made by a Caddo potter sometime after A.D. 1250. The sherd illustrated in Figure 5b was decorated with rows of fingernail punctations. The remaining decorated sherds were punctated with some type of tool that was pushed into the wet clay surface (Figure 6c-d).

Because this site may contain a component that can be attributed to a Caddo occupation, it may be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

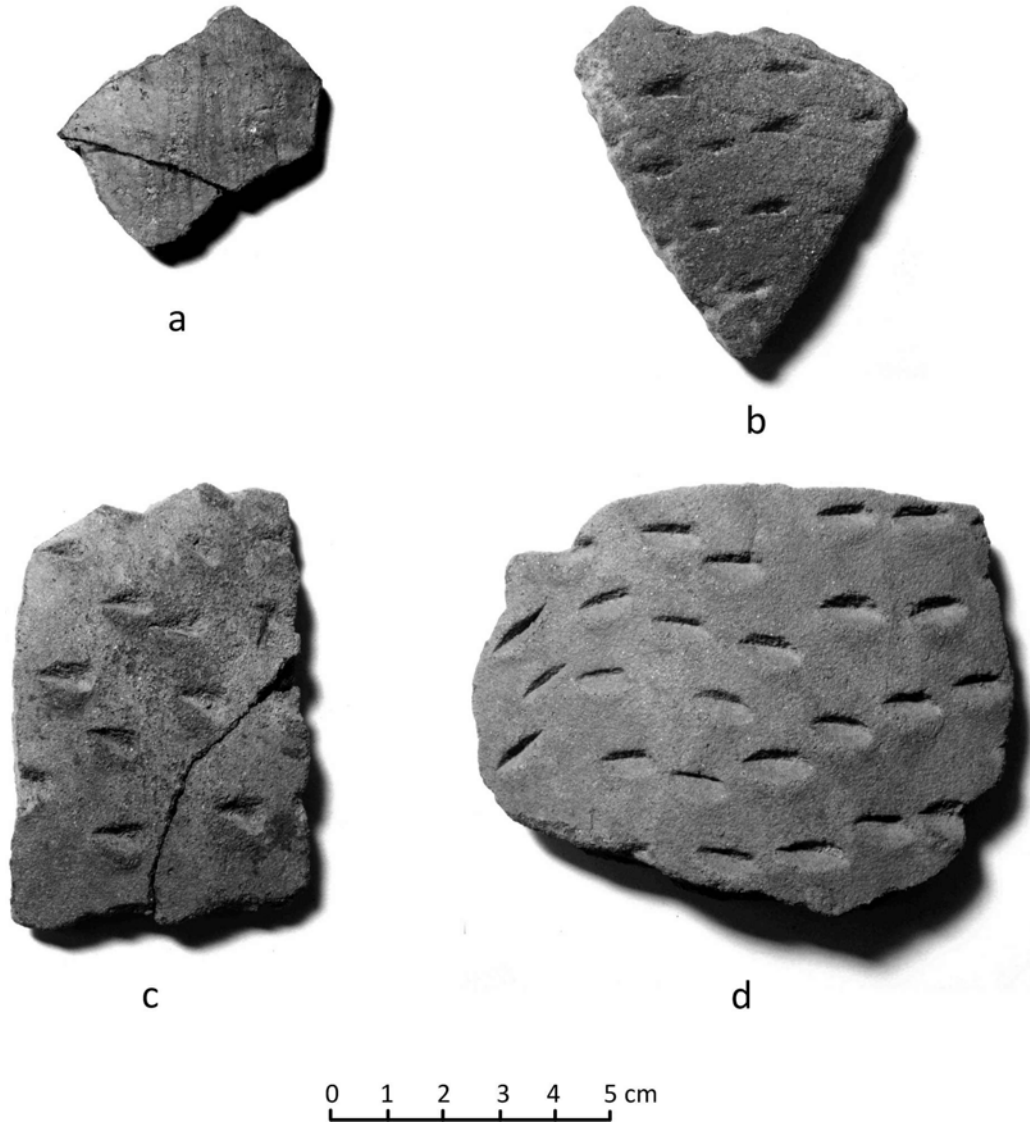


Figure 6. Sherds from Site 41MA29

(Photo from Perttula 2012 and taken by Lance Trask)

41MA30

This prehistoric campsite is situated on a sand hill overlooking the Navasota River 100 meters to the south at an elevation of 240 feet above mean sea level in eastern Madison County. It is depicted on the United States Geological Survey 7.5' Clear Lake topographic quadrangle (3096-442). The site was first discovered when the current owner cultivated the area for pasture. The major disturbance to this site is due to agricultural activities, erosion, and wallows by feral hogs. The size of this site is estimated to be six acres based on the extent of the area where artifacts were found. Artifacts observed and/or collected include dart points, one large biface that appears to be an Archaic knife, numerous flakes, and thirty pieces of pottery. The only lithic artifact available for analysis was the probable knife (Figure 7). The shape of this specimen strongly resembles the Kinney point as described and illustrated by Turner et al. (2011:121), but it appears to be too big for use as a projectile point. Goode (2002) conducted an extensive study of the Kinney type and concluded that they were used as knives. This specimen is made from Edwards chert.

The ceramics from this site consists of one plain grog-tempered rim from a bowl, twenty-six body sherds, and three base sherds. Approximately 80% of the sherds have a sandy paste that varies from fine to coarse with no inclusions that would have been added as temper. Three other sandy paste sherds were tempered with bone, and five sherds with a silty to clayey paste were tempered with grog; one silty to clayey paste sherd has no temper. The sherds in this sample are from moderately thick vessels that were probably jars and bowls. The three decorated sherds represent a jar with an incised-punctated motif, a possible carinated bowl with a simple incised decoration on the rim panel, and a brushed body sherd. The motif on the jar consists of a single straight incised line adjacent to an area filled with tool punctations. The complete design may have been triangular in shape with incised lines creating a triangle filled with punctuations. Based on the ceramic analyses by Perttula (2012, 2013), the ceramics at this site appear to represent part of an aboriginal ceramic tradition defined by Perttula and Ellis (2013) that is localized in the east-central part of the state. This tradition is recognized by a preponderance of plain sandy paste pottery, especially Goose Creek Plain, *var. unspecified*. This type of pottery is a distinctive aspect of the material culture remains of the inland Mossy Grove culture defined by Story et al. (1990:258; Figure 39). Sites belonging to the Mossy Grove culture are found in the Brazos, Trinity, and Neches-Angelina river basins in Southeast Texas and at sites in East Central Texas and East Texas.



0 1 2 cm

Figure 7. Knife from 41MA30

SUMMARY

Sites 41MA22 and 41MA27 – 41MA30 are located in a prime setting on landforms adjacent to the Navasota River. Although these five areas have been recorded as separate sites, it is possible that they represent different landforms that were occupied by the inhabitants of the same site. In prehistoric times, more permanent camps were usually established in areas where an abundance of natural resources were available. Rivers provided a dependable source of water that could be used for drinking and cooking, and they contained marine life that was consumed such as fish, turtles, and mussels. Prehistoric sites on rivers and other streams are often located in areas where these waterways could be more easily crossed, and some of these natural crossings were later used by early settlers who established ferries. As the country developed, some of the Indian trails became roads that are used today with bridges where the ferries used to operate. An example of early settlement in an area once inhabited by prehistoric Indians (41BU16) is found in a letter by William B. DeWees who describes the influx of settlers to the area in 1822 (Appendix I in Roemer and Carlson 1987). He states that the area is “literally alive with all kinds of game” including buffalo and bear.

Indians utilized networks of trails that they followed to other villages, and it is known from the writings of early explorers, especially Henri Joutel (Foster and Warren 1998), that the Indians in this area moved about while engaging in the pursuit of natural resources and trading expeditions. Some researchers (Hatcher 1932:53-54) believe that “segments of the first routes of exploration often followed pre-existing Indian trails.” McGraw et al. (1991:35) state “It is conceivable, even probable, that these Indian routes were established well before the Historic-contact period.”

Perhaps the most widely used trail in the area is *El Camino Real de los Tejas* (also referred to as the Old San Antonio Road), a route that is based in part on traditional Native American trails that were later used by European explorers. For centuries, the Native Americans had used this trail for trading between the Great Plains and Chihuahuan Desert regions. The sites discussed in this report are on State Highway 21, a road that roughly follows the original route of the *El Camino Real de los Tejas*. This historic trail was first followed and marked by Spanish explorers and missionaries in the 1700s and was one of several “royal roads” that connected Spanish holdings in North America with Mexico City. This road was designated as a unit in the National Historic Trail system in 2004.

An in-depth history of the Old San Antonio Road and the *Caminos Reales* was published by the Texas State Department of Highways and Public Transportation (McGraw et al. 1991). According to their research, the Old San Antonio Road in 1691 was nothing more than a mule trail that connected the frontier missions of an unexplored province to distant colonial settlements south of the Rio Grande. They also state that the road changed through the centuries and directly influenced the establishment of many Texas towns and ultimately the modern network of state highways (McGraw et al. 1991:xix).

Although the sites discussed in this report are on State Highway 21, they appear to be only about five miles south of the *El Camino Real de los Tejas*. Since these early trails changed course over time, it is possible that this trail was once closer. There are two known prehistoric sites and one historic site on this trail. The prehistoric sites are 41CE19 (George C. Davis) and 41BU16, and the historic site is the mission *San Francisco de los Tejas* that was established in 1690. The George C. Davis site is a major Caddoan village on the Neches River in Cherokee County 127.8 kilometers (79.4 miles) to the east of the sites discussed in this report, and site 41BU16 is a large camp 43 kilometers (26.7 miles) to the west in Burleson County on the Brazos River at the crossing of the Old San Antonio Road.

The exact period of occupation of the Madison County sites is not known. Artifacts collected suggest that the first inhabitants were Paleo-Indians that could have utilized the area sometime between 8000 B.P. to 5700 B.P. Since not one of these Paleo-Indian artifacts was found *in situ*, it is not known if they represent a pure Paleo-Indian component of any permanence or if they were dropped by transients during this period. The largest number of artifacts date to the Archaic and date to a broad time span from 4500 B.C. to 1000 B.C. The last period is the Late Prehistoric that is represented by arrow points, ceramics, and certain tools that were used circa A.D. 800 to A.D. 1600 and later. Habitation at these sites could have occurred during any period of the dates mentioned above.

Trade and influence from other areas are evidenced by the presence of artifacts made from Georgetown chert that is found near the community of Georgetown in Williamson County. Evidence of interaction with Caddo groups is based on a single ceramic sherd that Perttula (2012) believes represents a utility ware jar that was likely made by a Caddo potter sometime after A.D. 1250. This potter could have been part of a small trading or hunting party that originated from the Davis site or an outlier. Two sites in the general area where Caddo pottery has been found are 41WA55 in Walker County where a Holly Fine Engraved sherd (identified by Dee Ann Story) was found (Moore 1986) and 41BZ102 in Brazos County where Caddo pottery and a four-beveled knife were collected by a local and recorded by the author of this report.

Raw materials from other areas, especially Central Texas, were highly desired by East Texas Indians and were a source of trade as well. According to Harry J. Shafer (personal communication), lithic artifacts from the Davis site include specimens made from chert found at White Flint Park on Lake Belton in Bell County and Uvalde Gravel (now referred to as local gravels of unknown origin) from the Central Texas prairies. Another non-local material found at the Davis site is Manning Fused Glass, and it is represented by debitage and arrow point failures (Shafer 1973:163). The most likely source for this material is in Walker County about 80 kilometers to the south and southwest.

Kenneth M. Brown (1971) discusses the resources for this material at the Davis site and in an article in the *Bulletin of the Texas Archaeological Society* he (Brown 1976) provides an overview of the origin and distribution of this material in Texas. It has been documented by Joutel (Foster and Warren 1998) that the Caddo made forays into other areas to obtain bison skins and tongues for trade. According to the description of life on the Brazos River in 1822, DeWees mentions the abundance of bison in the following statement:

“You would scarcely believe me, were I to tell you of the vast herds of buffalo which abound here; I have frequently seen a thousand in a day between this place, and the mouth of Little River.”

Another historic account of bison in Texas is by an anonymous author who traveled throughout the state in 1837. His notes were edited and published by Andrew Forest Muir (1986) under the title *Texas in 1837: An Anonymous Contemporary Narrative*. The presence of buffalo in the prairies west of Houston is described on pages 57 and 125.

The above statements are presented as possible evidence that the Madison County sites may have been part of a hunting and trading network that involved the inhabitants of 41BU16 to the west, 41CE19 to the east, and other sites not identified during this study. The Davis site was abandoned sometime during the 13th century when the elite ruling class dissipated after the outlying hamlets became more self-sufficient and grew less dependent on the site for religious and political matters. By the time Europeans arrived in the area in the 18th century, the Caddo groups in the area lived in small villages and hamlets, spread across the local landscape. They had long since stopped building mounds, and their former hierarchical social and political organization had become much less centralized. The date of the demise of the Davis site roughly corresponds with the proposed age of the Caddo sherd at 41MA29. This suggests that it is possible that there was a Caddo occupation at this site.

These sites are in a region where there is a mixture of projectile point types from East Texas and Central Texas. There have been no formal typology studies for point types in this area. As a result, points found at sites in counties such as Brazos, Burleson, and Madison are typed based on known types found in other parts of Texas, and this is evidenced by the artifact analysis at site 41BU16. Six dart points are described in the report as “Bulverde related.” In addition, the analyst was unable to classify sixteen arrow points. Large collections of thousands of projectile points from the Brazos Valley are housed at the Brazos Valley Museum and Texas A&M University. Although the provenience of these specimens may not be specific, they do offer a large sample that can be used for comparative purposes.

When other streams are present that flow into rivers, a greater variety of natural resources was usually available for exploitation. In this case, the sites described in this report are located between the river and a relict channel of the river. To the south and across the river is a marshy area that might have provided different sources of floral and faunal species. The presence of projectile points is an indication of hunting, and impact fractures on some specimens attest to their having been used. No faunal remains were available for study, but it is assumed that marine and land animals were hunted and consumed. At site 41BU16, for example, subsistence was based on marine resources (gar, freshwater drum, freshwater mussels, and soft shell turtle) and animals hunted in the nearby prairie savannah. The presence of three “nutting stones” at 41MA27 is evidence of the gathering of nuts for eventual processing and consumption. Ceramics are viewed by most archaeologists as related to food preparation and storage of food and water.

As stated above, sites 41MA29 and 41MA30 are viewed as significant because of the presence of ceramics in large numbers. Pottery is not common in sites on the opposite side of the Navasota River in Brazos County. It could be argued that sites with large numbers of ceramics are present in Brazos County, but they have not been documented at this time. Very little information is available regarding permanent settlement patterns in this area, but there is evidence that the more long-term sites are on the major rivers. The author is only aware of six sites (41BZ1, 41BZ10, 41BZ31, 41BZ94, 41BZ99, and 41BZ102) in Brazos County where pottery has been documented. All of the ceramics from these sites were surface finds except for 41BZ10. This site appears to support the hypothesis that pottery was not made and used in large numbers in Brazos County. Only four plain sherds were found at this site. This is viewed as a very low number and reliance on pottery at this site, and this statement is based on the fact that only four sherds were found in 34 shovel tests and 12 backhoe trenches. Site 41BZ10 is part of a major site on the river, and if pottery was an important part of the subsistence at this site it seems reasonable that it would be present in much larger numbers. This site was excavated by archaeologists from Texas A&M University (Thoms 1993).

A major testing program was conducted at site 41BU16 in Burleson County, 26.7 miles to the west (Roemer and Carlson 1987). Twenty-six cubic meters of soil was removed during this investigation, and only seventy-two sherds were recovered. The authors believe that they were probably made locally from clay obtained from the Brazos River and its tributaries. They (Roemer and Carlson 1987:121) state, "...until proven otherwise, the majority of ceramics at 41BU16 were locally made and distributed." They pose the hypothesis that ceramics may have been "exchanged up and down the Brazos River in this area." It is also possible that there was influence from the sites in Madison County regarding the manufacture of ceramics.

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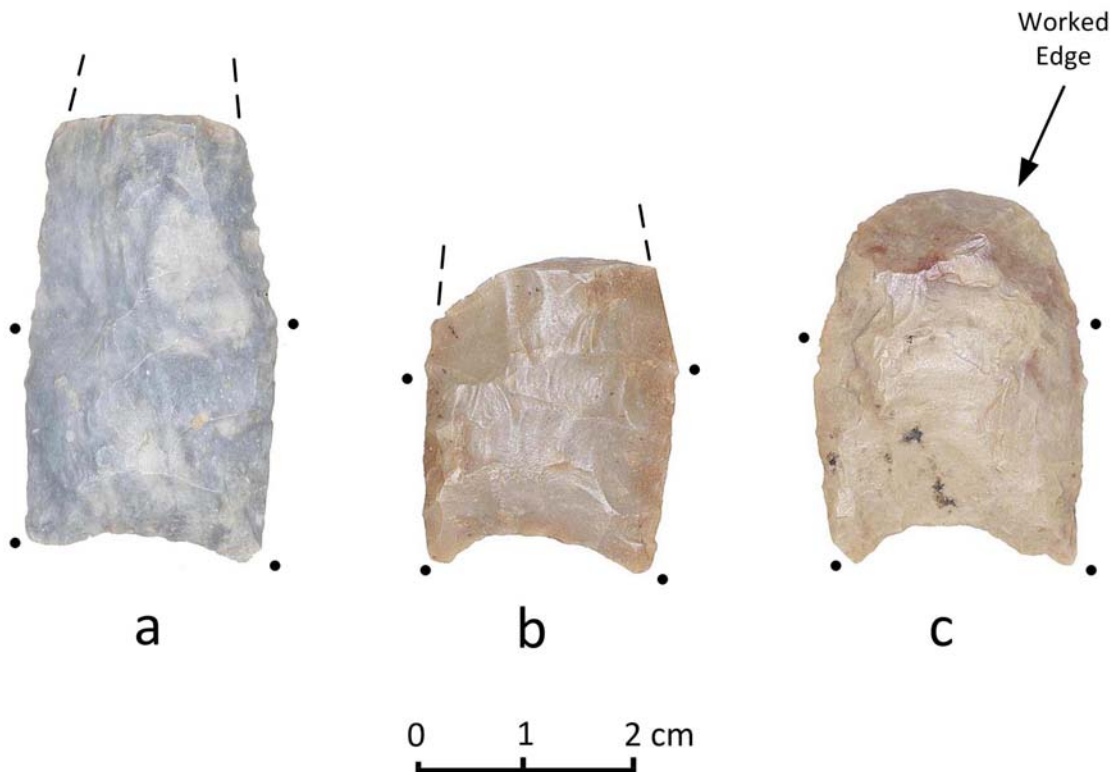
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APPENDIX I: ARTIFACTS FROM 41MA27

Dart Points

Based on the wide distribution of Angostura points in Texas and the variety of flaking patterns observed on this type, the specimens illustrated below are classified as Angostura, and they represent the only documented examples of this type in Madison County. Angostura points vary greatly in size, shape, and flaking patterns; and this sometimes makes positive identification difficult. Angostura points are found throughout Texas and, According to Turner et al. (2011:59), they date to the Late Paleo-Indian period based on radiocarbon dates of 8805 ± 75 years Before Present (B.P.) at 41BX831 in Bexar County and 8490 B.P. to 8080 and 8080 B.P. to 7960 B.P. at the Armstrong site (41CW34) in Caldwell County. Specimen "a" exhibits retouch on the blade, and the base and stem are ground or smoothed (dots indicate areas of smoothing). Specimen "b" also has some smoothing on the base and stem. Specimen "c" has minimal smoothing and has been reworked to create an end scraper. Thomas C. Kelly (1983) examined a collection of Paleo-Indian points from a collection in South Texas. Based on this study, he proposed two variants that he refers to as "Texas Angostura" and "Zella." Specimen "a" is made from a gray chert (origin unknown), and specimens "b" and "c" were made from local chert that was probably collected from river gravels.



Angostura Points from 41MA27

One specimen appears to be an example of the Golondrina type, but it also shares some minor traits of the Plainview type. Its resemblance to Golondrina is based on its deep basal concavity (5.5 mm) that is recurved, flared ears or barbs, and grinding on the basal edge and within the basal concavity. According to Turner et al. (2011:110-111), this type is mainly found in South Texas, Central Texas, the Coastal Plain, and the Lower Pecos. It is a Paleo-Indian type that was dated at Baker Cave (41VV213) in Val Verde County to circa 7080 B.C. to 6830 B.C. The only similarity to Plainview is the basal concavity. Plainview points are not fluted, but this specimen has a small flute on the dorsal surface. The lateral edges appear to have been abraded or ground at one time, but most of the abrasion has been removed due to re-sharpening. It is made from Georgetown chert.



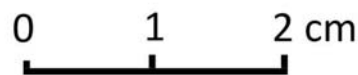
Golondrina Point from 41MA27

One artifact from 41MA27 fits the description of the Pelican type. Sherwood M. Gagliano and Hiram F. Gregory (1965) named Pelican points for specimens found at the John Pearce site (16CD56) in Louisiana. Based on its shape, ground or smoothed edges, and basal thinning, Pelican points are believed to be a Late Paleo-Indian or Early Archaic type from the Great Bend of the Red River. According to Turner et al. (2011:151), Pelican points may be contemporary with the San Patrice type that dates to 7500 B.C.; and the two are similar in shape. The specimen from 41MA27 is made from a very high quality non-local chert. Two of the characteristics of this type are basal thinning that resembles fluting and lateral edges that have been smoothed or dulled (dots depict areas of smoothing). Both characteristics are present on this specimen. It appears that the distal portion of the blade edge has been reworked. Its measurements are 40.29 mm (length), 27.85 mm (width), and 6.73 mm (thickness). The depth of the basal concavity is 3.67 mm. It is made from Georgetown chert.



Pelican Point from 41MA27

Baird's Beveled points are believed to have been in use during the latter stages of the Early Archaic based on examples found in well-stratified sites in the Edwards Plateau. Specimens found in Central Texas were referred to by Kelly (1947) as Baird's Beveled Blade and Taylor Thinned Base. William A. Dickens (personal communication) believes that these specimens are morphologically different from Taylor Thinned Base. Black and McGraw (1985) suggested that they functioned as knives, but a microware study revealed minimal use of the lateral edges and a high frequency of impact fractures. The results of this study are viewed by Decker et al. (2000) as evidence that their primary function was that of a projectile point. The general age for this type is circa 5800 B.P. to 5700 B.P. (Turner et al. 2011:88). Dickens states that excavated specimens are usually found at the same level or just above the Martindale type. This specimen is highly serrated on both lateral edges. Its measurements are 57.20 mm (length), 29.93 mm (basal width), and 10.5 mm (thickness at the mid-section). It is made from Georgetown chert.



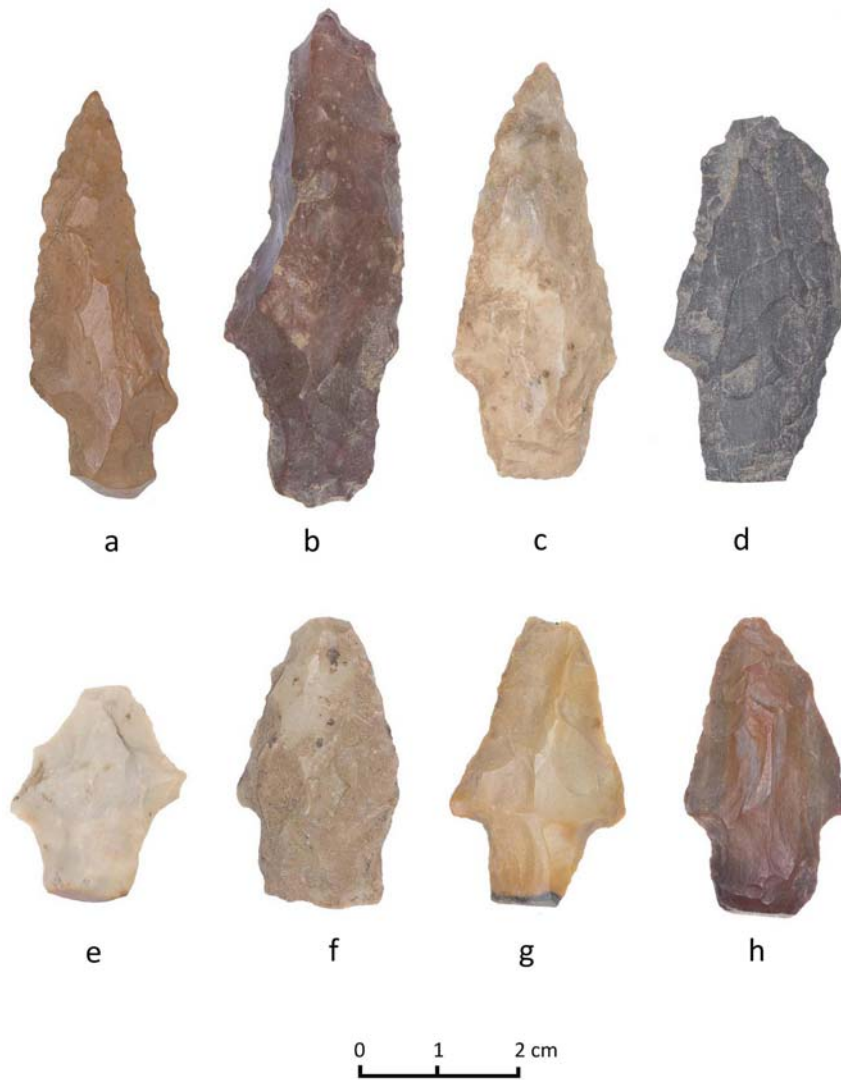
Baird's Beveled Point from 41MA27

Two examples of the Pedernales type were found at site 41MA27. The first person to describe this point was J. Charles Kelley (1947). He named it "Pedernales Indented Base" based on a single specimen found at the Lehmann Rockshelter (41GL1) in Gillespie County. This type was described in more detail by Suhm et al. (1954) who shortened the name to Pedernales. Turner et al. (2011:148-149) place this point in the Middle Archaic with a date of 2500 B.P. to 3500 B.P. This is the most common type found in Central Texas, but examples have been documented in other parts of the state including Brazos County. Harry J. Shafer says that specimen "a" is an expanding stem Pedernales that is common on the prairies along the Lampasas, Little River, and at sites in the Brazos Valley. Specimen "b" appears to have been made from a high quality chert that may be non-local.



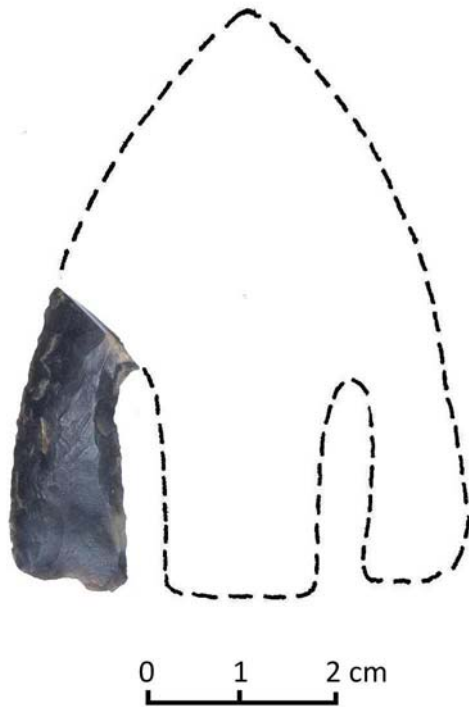
Pedernales Points from 41MA27

T. N. Campbell (1952) was the first to recognize the Kent point as a type based on specimens found at the Kent Crane site (41AS2) in Atascosa County, and Suhm et al. (1954) were the first to name it. Turner et al. (2011:120) believe this is a Middle Archaic type based on a radiocarbon date of 3156 B.P. to 2873 B.P., and McKinney (1981) dates it to the Early Archaic. Kent points are often confused with the Gary type. Both types have contracting stems, but the bases on the Kent type are usually rounded or straight, while those on the Gary type are pointed. Many specimens in Southeast Texas were made from silicified wood and appear to be unfinished because of the nature of the raw material used. It is not uncommon for cortex to be present on the base (see specimens “a” and “g”).



Kent Points from 41MA27

The Andice type has massive barbs that extend downward, and this makes it one of the more unusual points found in Texas. Because the juncture of the barbs and the body is narrow, there is a very high frequency of breakage. Andice points date to the Middle Archaic (circa 4500 B.C. to 3500 B.C.) and are found in East Texas, South Central Texas, and across the Gulf coastal plain to the Victoria and Corpus Christi area (Turner et al. 2011:57-58). Andice points are morphological similar to the Bell type (see Turner et al. 2011:65). These points are part of the Calf Creek Horizon found in Arkansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, and much of Texas.



Andice Barb from 41MA27

One Pontchartrain point was found at site 41MA27. This type was named by James A. Ford and Clarence H. Webb (1956) for examples found at the Poverty Point site (16WC5) and near Lake Pontchartrain in Louisiana. According to Turner et al. (2011:153) this point dates from the Middle Archaic to the Transitional Archaic (circa 2000 B.C. to A.D. 500). It is found at sites in East Texas, Southeast Texas, and Louisiana.



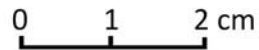
Pontchartrain Point from 41MA27

Two Ellis points were found at site 41MA27. This type was first described by H. Perry Newell and Alex D. Krieger (1949) based on specimens found at the George C. Davis site (41CE19) in Cherokee County, and they named it “Ellis Stemmed.” Later, Suhm et al. (1954) shortened the name to Ellis. Turner et al. (2011:93) refer to this type as Late to Transitional Archaic with a date of circa 1000 B.C. McKinney (1981) wrote an article entitled “Paleo-Indian/Archaic Transition Problem” in which he describes them as Early Archaic. Turner et al. (2011:93) state that it is often difficult to distinguish this point morphologically from the Edgewood and Ensor types, and Prikryl (1990) compares them to the Marcos type.



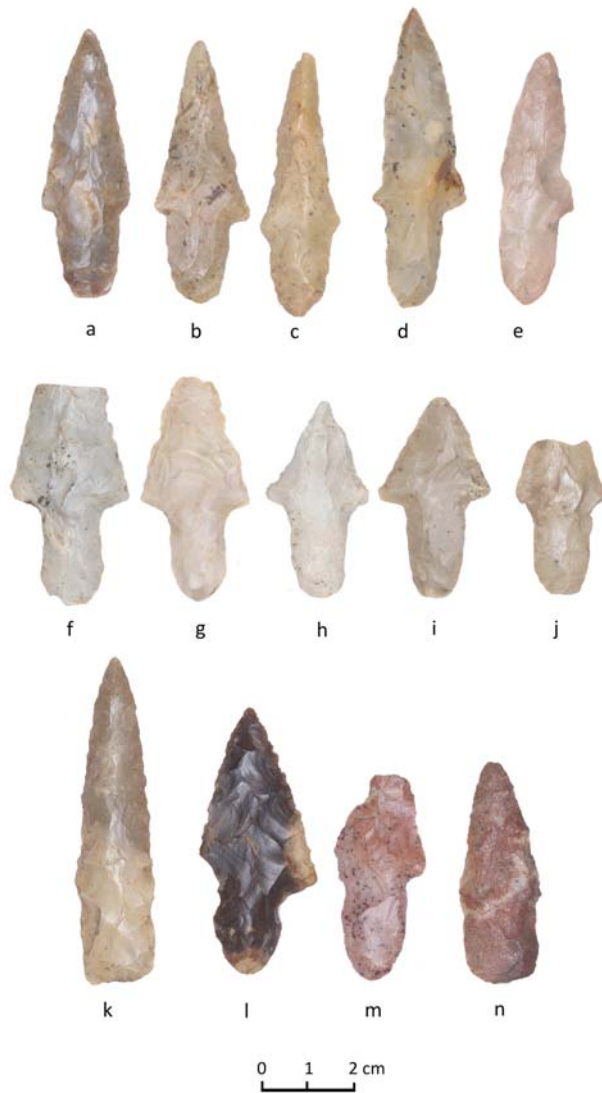
a

b



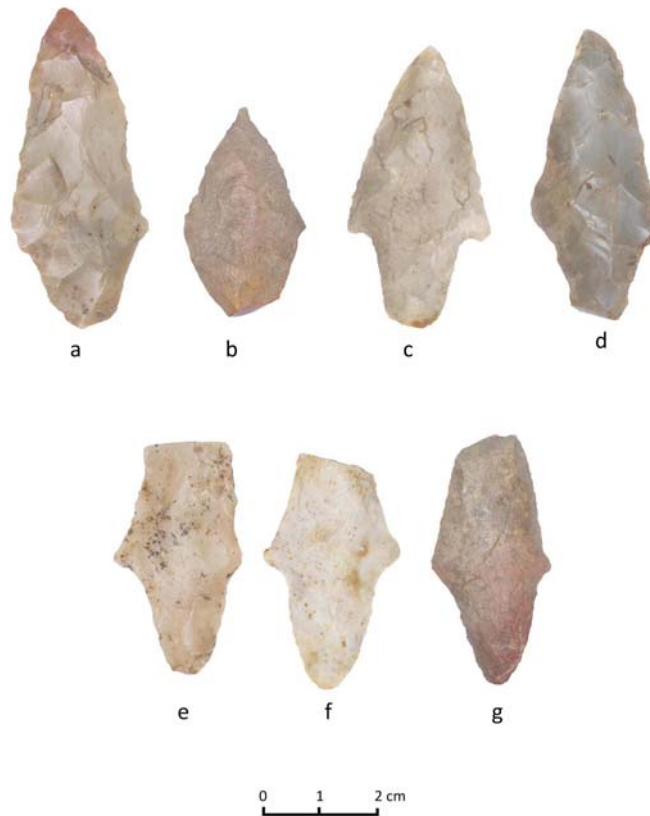
Ellis Points from 41MA27

Fifteen wells points and four bases that appear to be from Wells points were found at 41MA27. Fourteen are illustrated here, and the bases are not illustrated. The first examples of the Wells type were found at the George C. Davis site (41CE19) in Cherokee County by Perry Newell and Alex D. Krieger (1949) and named for the town of Wells near the site. R. L. Stephenson (1949:34 and Plate 7a:specimens 5-7)) referred to this point as "Sisterdale Shouldered." Turner et al. (2011:170) consider this type to be a Middle Archaic form with a date of 4000 B.C. to 2500 B.C. Prewitt (1981) and McKinney (1981) refer to it as Early Archaic, and Perino (1985) believes it is a Late Archaic type with an estimated age of 2000 B.C. or later. Wells points are long and narrow, but the presence of a long stem is their most salient feature. The blades on specimens "h" and "i" have been reworked.

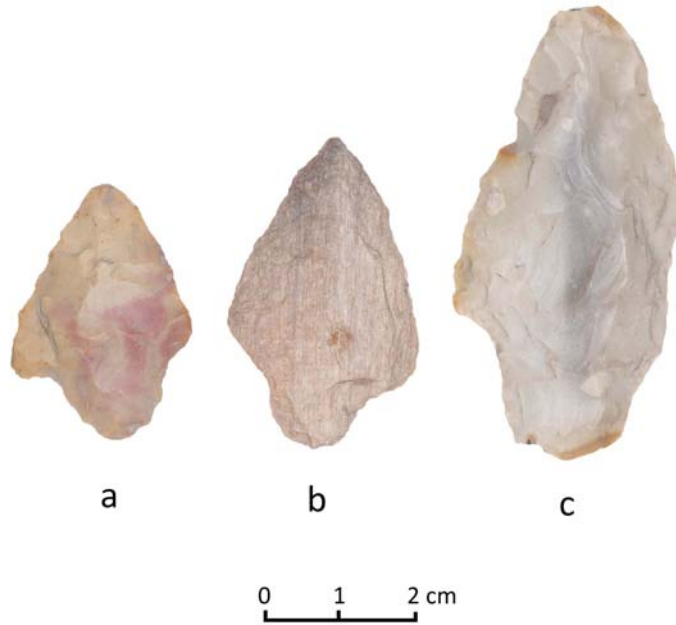


Wells Points from 41MA27

H. Perry Newell and Alex D. Krieger (1949) were the first to recognize Gary points as a type based on examples found in East Texas where it is a common point type. They referred to it as "Gary Contracting Stem." Suhm et al. (1954:416) shortened the name to Gary, and they believe it was in use between 2000 B.C. and A.D. 1000 and in some areas possibly as late as A.D. 1500 to A.D. 1600. Gary points are often confused with the Kent type. Both types have contracting stems, but the bases on the Gary type are usually pointed or slightly rounded, while those on the Kent type are rounded or straight. One small specimen was found by William E. Moore at 41WA55. It has the classic Gary shape but is not much larger than some arrow points, and it was found in the upper levels of the site where arrow points and ceramics were also present. Perhaps this specimen represents the transition from dart points to arrow points. This would be consistent with the statement by Ford and Webb (1956) that there is evidence that this type became smaller in size in more recent times. Baerreis et al. (1958) mentioned that there is a considerable range in variation within the Gary type and further study may necessitate that it be divided into more than one type. At this time, it is best described as Late to Transitional Archaic. Three specimens from this site were identified by Harry J. Shafer as Gary preforms. These artifacts are made from local materials.

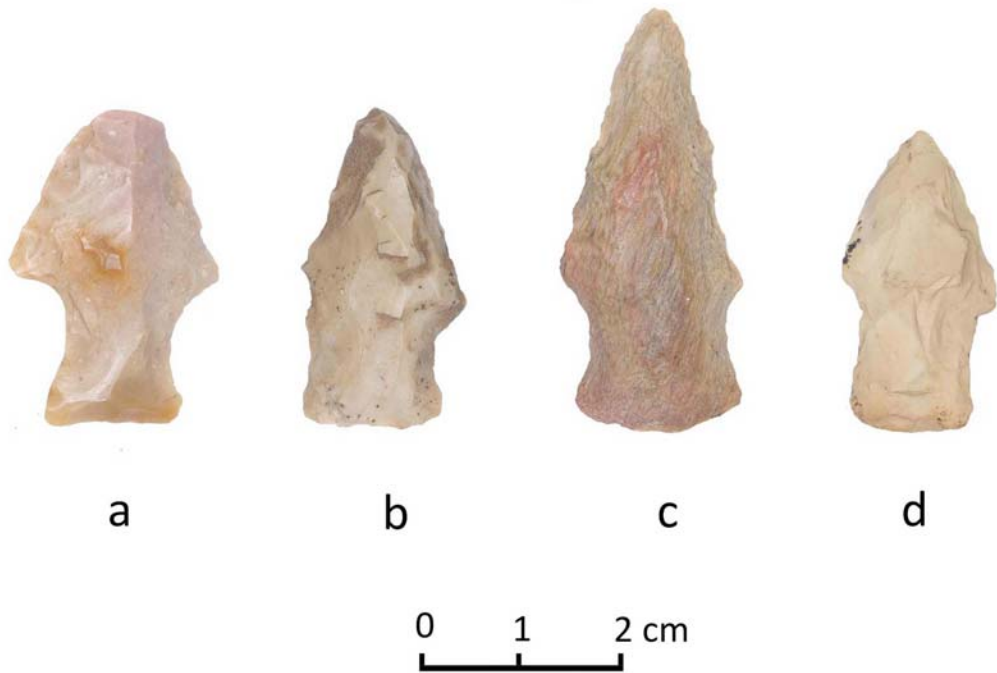


Gary Points from 41MA27



Gary Preforms from 41MA27

Perry H. Newell and Alex D. Krieger (1949) named this type “Yarbrough Stemmed” for examples found at the George C. Davis site (41CE19) in Cherokee County. Suhm et al. (1954) shortened the name to Yarbrough. Turner et al. (2011:173) refer to this type as Late Archaic but offer no date. Suhm et al. (1954) date it to 500 B.C. to A.D. 1000. Perino (1985) believes it is an Early Archaic type that may have persisted past that time.



Yarbrough Points from 41MA27

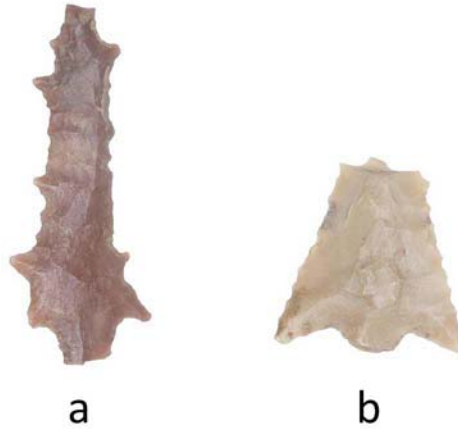
Arrow Points

One arrow point was found at 41MA27 that appears to be an example of the Alba type. Alex D. Krieger (1946) referred to this point as “Alba Barbed” and named it for the town of Alba in Wood County in 1946 where the first specimens were found. Suhm et al. (1954) shortened the name to Alba and described it in more detail. According to Davis (1995), this type is primarily found in East Texas and Northeast Texas. Specimens have been found in other areas of the state but in fewer numbers such as one specimen from the Kyle site (41HI1), a rockshelter in Hill County. Turner et al (2011:177) refer to its distribution as East Texas, Central Texas, the coastal plain, and Louisiana. They date it to sometime between A.D. 800 and A.D. 1200. Alba points closely resemble Bonham points that are believed to date to circa A.D. 800 to A.D. 1600 (Davis 1995).



Alba Point from 41MA27

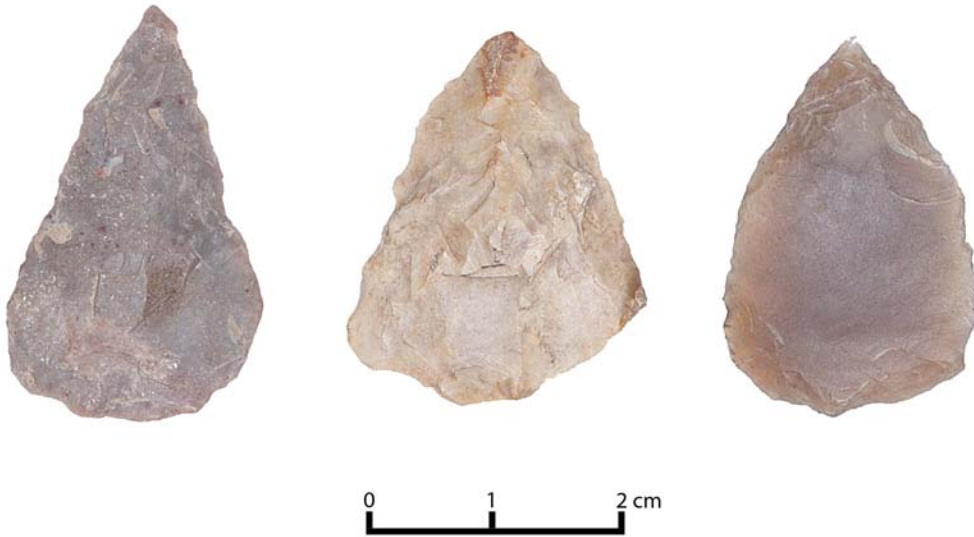
There are thirteen arrow point fragments in the collection, and two are illustrated here because they are fairly complete. They are described in this report as not recognized according to a known type. Specimen “a” shares some traits with the Livermore type that is mainly found in the western part of the state and specimen “b” may be an example of the Alba or Bonham type. The function of the serrated blades on some arrow points is not known but they are common and occur on a variety of arrow point types.



0 1 2 cm

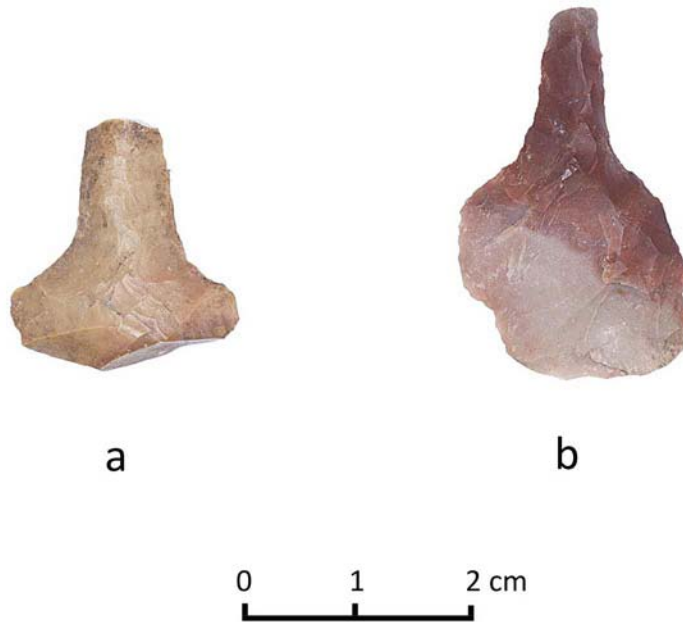
Untyped Arrow Points

Arrow point preforms are sometimes mistaken as a point type, especially those with no stems or notches. A true preform represents an unfinished arrow point and sometimes is the last step before the completion of the desired type. A preform can be a biface or unifacial. Specimen "a" is thick in the middle, and this may reduce the choices for further reduction and shaping. It is difficult to tell if specimen "b" is a broken arrow point or a preform. Specimen "c" is unifacial and made from high quality chert that may not be local.



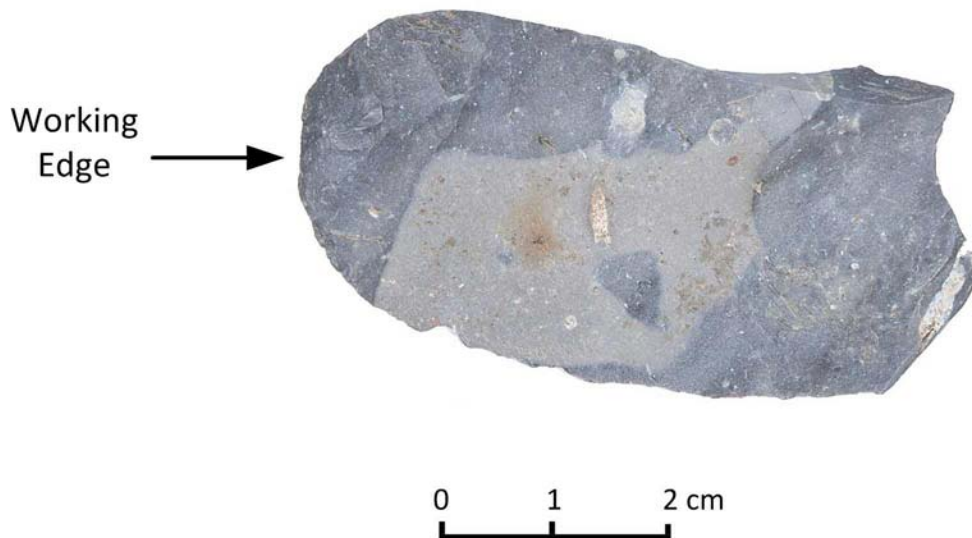
Arrow Point Preforms from 41MA27

The most widely used terms for the artifacts illustrated below are drills or perforators. Perforators were used to punch holes through leather and hides and may have been used in tasks involved in weaving or stitching. Drills were used in a rotary fashion to create holes in stone, bone, and wood. These tools were used during the Archaic and Late Prehistoric periods. The Late Prehistoric drills are typically smaller than the Archaic forms and they usually have long bits that extend from rounded bases that may be bifacial or unifacial. Late Prehistoric drills are often associated with Perdiz arrow points and are a key trait of the Toyah Horizon (A.D. 1350 to A.D. 1600 and later). It is important to note that a Perdiz point was found at site 41MA28. The above information was taken from Turner et al. (2011:239).



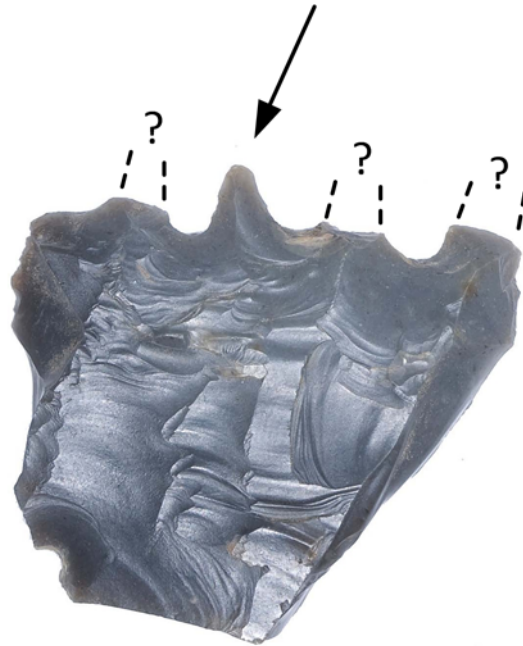
Drills or Perforators from 41MA27

Scrapers are a formal tool form found in Paleo-Indian sites associated with the Folsom culture and Late Prehistoric sites that date to the Toyah Horizon (A.D. 1350 to A.D. 1600 and later). The specimen from 41MA27 was made on a large flake, and it is a classic example of an end scraper. This artifact type was sometimes hafted, and some were used as trade items. Caches of finished tools or the blades and flakes on which they were made have been found in the Texas Panhandle and the Llano Estacado in Central Texas. The above information was taken from Turner et al. (2011:246). This specimen was made from a material that closely resembles a Central Texas type referred to as "Owl Creek Black" that is most common in the Fort Hood area. This material is also found in the gravels associated with the Brazos River (William A. Dickens, personal communication). Dr. Dickens (2005) discusses Owl Creek Black in his dissertation.



End Scraper from 41MA27

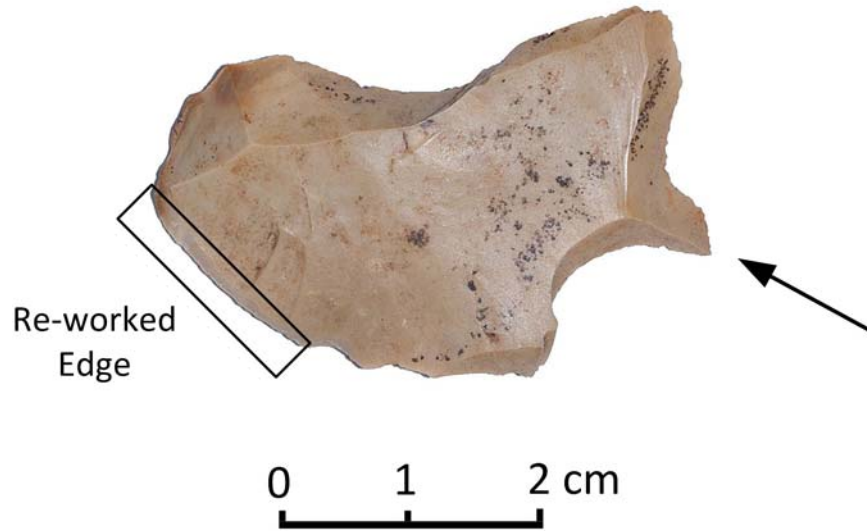
Two specimens from site 41MA27 appear to be formal tools that may have functioned as graters. Graters may have been used for cutting and engraving with various uses in different areas and different time periods (Turner et al. 2011:231). Graters were used from Paleo-Indian times through the Late Prehistoric. This specimen was made from the mid-section of a large biface that has been re-worked into this tool. There are three areas that could represent additional graters that were present at one time. It is made from Georgetown chert.



0 1 2 cm

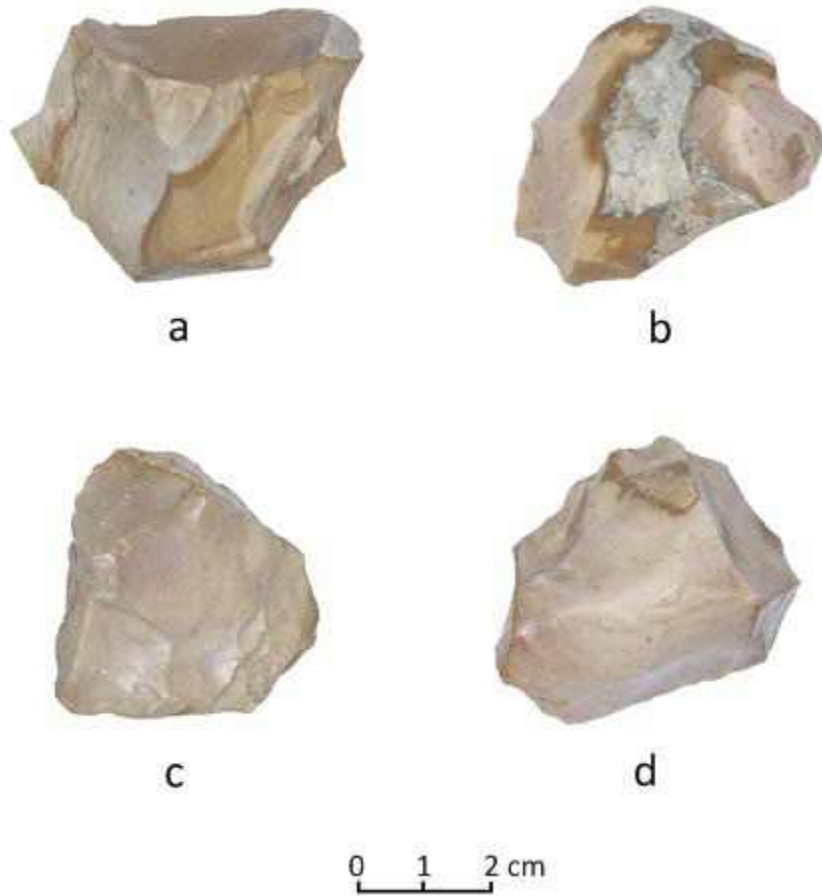
Graver from 41MA27

This interior flake has been worked to create a projection that appears to have been designed to function as a graver (see arrow). One of the lateral edges exhibits a very fine beveled edge that may have been used as a scraper. It is not possible to accurately determine the purpose of this piece without use wear analysis.



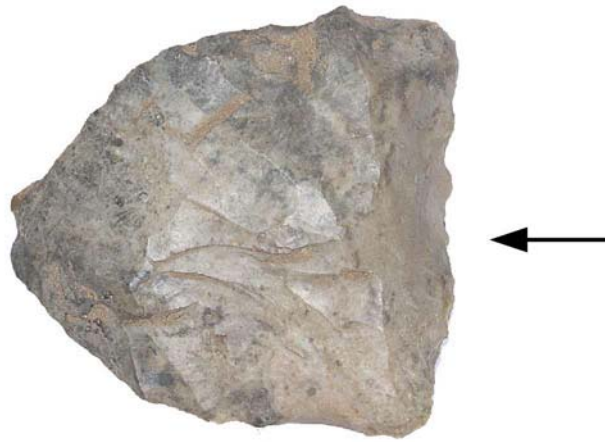
Graver from 41MA27

A core is a cobble or other form of raw material from which flakes or blades are removed. In addition to providing a source for flakes and blades, cores can be utilized as tools. Specimens “a” through “d” are made of chert and are best described as “exhausted cores” because they appear to have been utilized to their maximum extent.



Cores from 41MA27

This specimen is ovoid in shape and has a bit or working edge at the widest end. Based on an examination of similar gouges using a high powered microscope and replication experiments by Hudler (1977), it was determined that most of these tools were used in tasks related to woodworking in an adze-like fashion. Most gouges are referred to as Clear Fork tools as first defined by Cyrus E. Ray (1941). Clear Fork tools have been reported over much of Texas and can date from Paleo-Indian times through the Middle Archaic (Turner et al. 2011:225-226). The earliest professional discussion of the Clear Fork Focus was written and published by J. Charles Kelley (1947). John C. Lohse (personal communication) believes that this artifact could be a reworked Clear Fork gouge. The arrow points to the working edge.



0 1 2 cm

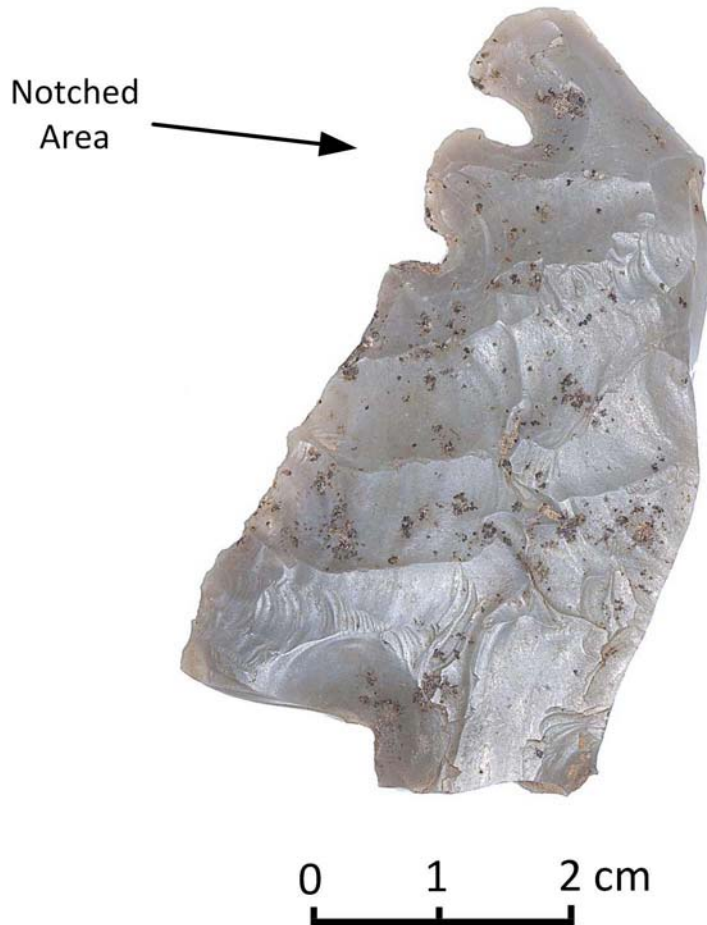
Gouge from 41MA27

This specimen is an example of a plano-convex tool made from silicified wood. There is an exaggerated convexity on the dorsal surface that creates a shape that resembles a hump, and it is referred to by some as a “humpback scraper.” William A. Dickens (personal communication) believes that these artifacts probably used for scraping, and he prefers the term plane. Planes could have been used to modify wood, plants, and/or bone. This specimen probably dates to the Archaic.



Plane from 41MA27

There is a class of artifacts that are often referred to as eccentrics because they cannot be recognized as a formal tool or projectile point. Turner et al. (2011:236) refer to these as “Multinotched Early Archaic Lithics.” This unique type of artifact is believed to date to the Early Archaic and associated with the Calf Creek Horizon and related to Andice and Bell points. Hester (1990:4), Weber and Patterson (1985:21-27), and Don Wykoff (personal communication) state that learning to create the deep notches in Andice and Bell points was a difficult task, and they hypothesize that points with multiple notches might have resulted from the need to practice the deep-notching skills required to create these unique points. These artifacts are found as reworked projectile points and amorphous forms, and both types are illustrated in Turner et al. (2011:236). It appears that the specimen from 41MA27 may have been a stemmed point that has been extensively reworked to create shape illustrated below. The presence of an Andice barb fragment at this site lends support to the function of this artifact as a practice piece. It is made from Georgetown chert.



Eccentric from 41MA27

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