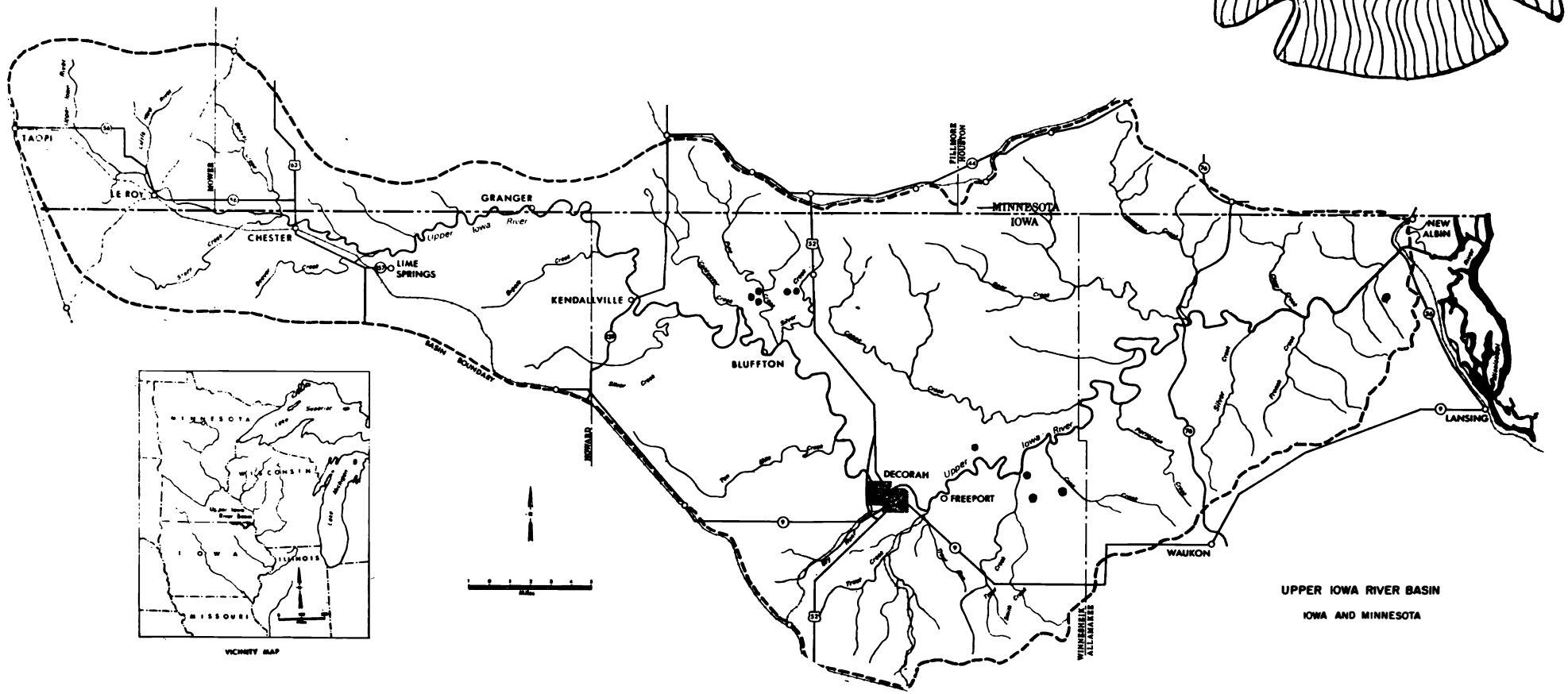
NEWSLETTER

NO. #6/ JULY 1971

IOWA ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY



DISTRIBUTION OF FLUTED PROJECTILE POINTS IN WINNESHIEK AND ALLAMAKEE COUNTIES

One dot represents one fluted projectile point.

M E S S A G E F R O M T H E P R E S I D E N T

One phase of the membership program has now been completed with the help of volunteers from the Northwest Chapter. Over six hundred of the Societies new brochures and publication lists were sent to libraries, museums and historical societies in the Plains area. Libraries with a circulation of fifty thousand or more in Kansas, Illinois, Missouri, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Wisconsin, Colorado and Wyoming were covered. In addition, all Iowa libraries with a circulation of ten thousand or more received the mailing. Museums in the Midwest Conference were covered along with a number of historical societies in and around Iowa.

George Horton reports progress in circulating brochures to individuals and we hope to see some returns in the near future.

Plans are being carried forward to make Preservations Committee appointments. It appears that it will be possible to accomplish this in time for inclusion in the fall newsletter. I hope if you are selected for the committee you will accept the responsibility and serve your term. There is a great need for this and preservation is one of the primary goals of our organization.

I have some good news to report regarding Volume 16 of the Journal. Roger Banks, assistant editor, reports that the entire manuscript has been run except for the table of contents. Envelopes are addressed and waiting and the Journal should be ready in a short time. Dale Henning, editor, reports that he is preparing two additional issues for publication and we all hope to be up to date on our Journal commitments by the time of our annual meeting in 1972. I sincerely hope this goal can be met.

Marshall McKusick, state archaeologist, has informed me of the availability of reprints of his recent edition of Ellison Orr's "Reminiscences of a Pioneer Boy" which appeared in two recent issues of Annals of Iowa. The reprints are to be circulated to Society members in the near future without cost to the Society. This will be a welcome addition to our bookshelves and we appreciate Dr. McKusick's thoughtfulness in furnishing the material.

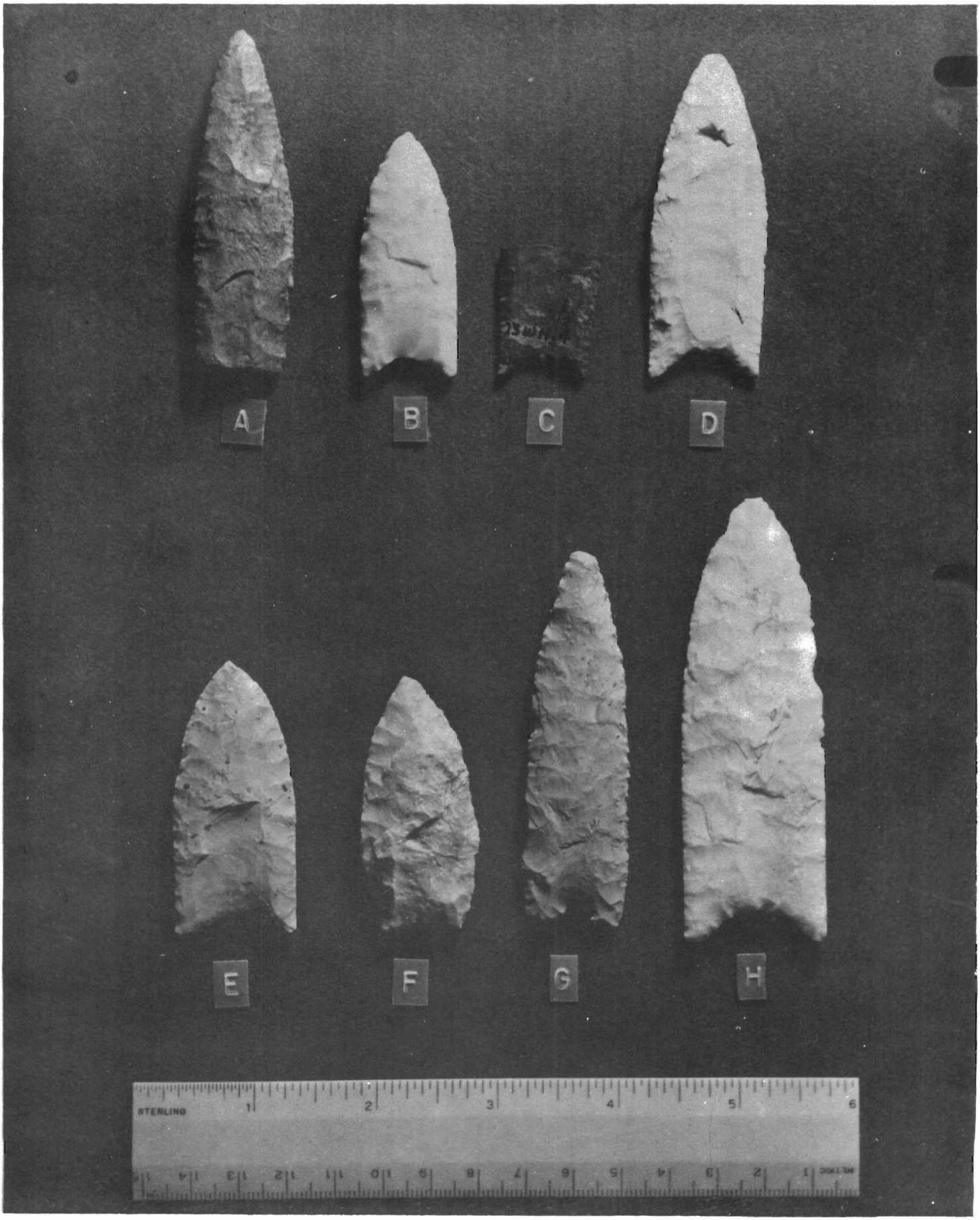
Progress is still being made toward complying with IRS regulations which have accidently overlooked by our Society. Maher, Meloy and Hankens of Cherokee have been of great assistance in attempting to resolve this problem and we hope to have things settled before too much longer.

Now, what about those recent finds you have been making? Why not write them up and send a picture or sketch to Don Spears for inclusion in the Newsletter? Don gets kind of lonesome down there in Ottumwa, so lets put him to work.

Finally, I am sorry to report that our faithful Secretary-Treasurer Ruth Thornton has broken her leg. She underwent surgery in mid-June and will be in a cast for some time to come. At last report, however, she was getting along very well. We all join in wishing her a speedy and complete recovery!

Duane C. Anderson
President, IAS

JULY 1 ST BEGINS THE FISCAL YEAR FOR YOUR SOCIETY AND SO FAR MANY OF THE MEMBERS HAVE ALREADY SENT IN THEIR DUES FOR THE CURRENT YEAR, HOWEVER THERE REMAINS QUITE A LENGTHY LIST OF MEMBERS WHO HAVE NOT SENT IN THEIR DUES. WE HAVE CARRIED SEVERAL LONG TERM MEMBERS ON OUR MAILING LIST IN THE HOPES THAT THEY MAY PAY UP THEIR DELINQUENCIES. THIS WILL BE THE LAST MAILING FOR THESE MEMBERS, SO YOU MIGHT CHECK YOUR DUES PAYMENTS NOW. MRS. THORNTON WILL APPRECIATE THE EARLY DUES PAYMENTS. DGS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STERLING

Fluted Projectile Points from Winneshiek and Allamakee Counties

R. Clark Mallam

In October of 1969 Luther College acquired the Gavin Sampson collection of Indian artifacts. Subsequent processing and cataloging procedures initiated by the Luther College Archaeological Research Center revealed a total of 1,645 identifiable projectile points. These projectile points were obtained from surface collections made by Mr. Sampson over a thirty year period in extreme northeastern Iowa focusing on Winneshiek and Allamakee Counties.

A Faculty Research Grant awarded to the author in October of 1970 facilitated an intensive study of this segment of the collection. The original research model was designed for a statistical analysis of the entire range of projectile points utilizing Benfer's system of measurements (Benfer: 1967). Closer assessment of the potential data suggested that a research design of this scope was impractical when weighed against the available funds and the difficulties of scheduling adequate research time. Following this reexamination, it was decided to restrict the design to the extreme chronological manifestations of the projectile points as represented by the Paleo-Indian lanceolate varieties and the Late Woodland and Oneota triangular types.

Of the 1,645 projectile points fifteen were classified as lanceolate, including three fluted types, and 369 labeled triangular. Mr. Duane Peter, a 1970 graduate of Luther College, was employed to measure the projectile points, and Mr. Dale Blyth, a Luther College senior, is currently processing the metrical data in the Luther College Computer Center.

A student survey of amateur collectors in Winneshiek and Allamakee Counties conducted during January, 1971, disclosed the existence of seven additional fluted points found in these two counties. Together with the artifactual information from the Sampson Collection and the only other fluted point previously reported from northeastern Iowa (Logan: 1954), these seven points bring the total number to eleven of the fluted types found in this region.

The following description of eight of these fluted points made available for study represents the first of several planned studies dealing with projectile points from northeastern Iowa. I have utilized the measurement and observation categories derived from Stoltman and Workman's analysis of fluted projectile points in Wisconsin (Stoltman and Workman: 1969), and have added three others: weight, color, and material.

Projectile point A, catalogue number 13WH33-4/5, is triangular in outline with slightly convex sides and a straight base. Excessively heavy grinding of the edges extending for one-third the length of the blade may account for the convex appearance. The point of maximum width is at the mid-section. The absence of both a basal concavity and lateral projections suggests modification of the original base. The apex cones of percussion indicate that the base may have been broken at one time. It is interesting to note that the removal of longitudinal flakes on both faces, terminating in hinge fractures, possibly occurred after the initial breakage. Additional grinding has produced rounded basal edges. Large percussion scars are

noted on both faces, and the edges are characterized by fine marginal retouching.

Projectile point B, catalogue number 13AM24-1, is lanceolate in outline with a concave base and lateral projections. The blade edges are parallel, gradually tapering toward the distal end. The widest portion of the blade is located slightly past the mid-section. Shallow multiple flakes, terminating in hinge fractures, have been removed from the base on each face and extend to the mid-section of the blade. The flaking pattern is irregular and only minor secondary retouching is noted. Grinding is exhibited in the basal concavity and along both edges to a point approximately midway on the blade.

Projectile point C, catalogue number 13WH14-4/98, has been broken approximately in the mid-section of the blade. The base is rectanguloid and hallmarked by a small protusion or nipple in the center and two slightly flaring ear-like projections. The removal of two distinct channel flakes has produced lateral ridges running parallel to the edges of the blade creating a bi-concave appearance in cross-section. Both edges of the blade and the basal concavity exhibit unusually delicate secondary retouching. One edge, although only twenty-eight millimeters in length, has seventeen parallel pressure flake scars. Neither the blade edges nor the basal concavity shows indications of grinding.

Projectile point D, from the Gerhard Forde Collection, is lanceolate in outline with a concave base and pronounced lateral projections. The sides of the blade are parallel and gradually taper toward the distal end at a point slightly below the mid-section where the greatest breadth is reached. Moderate grinding is noted in the basal concavity and along both edges for approximately one-half the length of the blade. Fine marginal retouching characterizes the proximal edges. The most distinctive feature of the point is the length of the flutes, all terminating in hinge fractures. On the obverse face the flute extends for two-thirds the length of the blade.

Projectile point E, from the Harold Lovlein Collection, is lanceolate in outline with a concave base and moderate lateral projections. The blade edges are parallel and begin to taper toward the distal end at the mid-section where the greatest breadth is reached. On the obverse face the removal of several deep channel flakes, terminating in hinge fractures, has produced lateral ridges running parallel to the blade edges. Grinding is evidenced in the basal concavity and along both edges extending for one-half the length of the blade.

Projectile point F, from the Harold Lovlein Collection, is leaf-shape in outline with a shallow concave base. It is broadest at the mid-section. Well-defined parallel ribbon flakes have been detached from the edges on both faces. The flaking pattern is especially unique because of the heavy granular composition of the stone. The flutes on the obverse face terminate in hinge fractures while only two shallow flakes have been removed from the reverse face. A broad impact scar, extending diagonally from the edge of the central portion of the blade toward the proximal end possibly accounts for the brevity of the longitudinal flakes on the reverse face. Grinding is quite moderate in the basal concavity but well pronounced along the edges extending for one-fourth the length of the blade.

Projectile point G, from the Millard Olson Collection, is lanceolate in outline with a concave base. A sharp notch, possibly incurred during basal retouching, is located in the center of the basal concavity. The

blade edges are parallel for a length of fifteen millimeters from the base, where the maximum breadth is reached, and then gradually taper toward the distal end. Irregular collateral flaking has produced a rounded median ridge extending the length of the obverse face. A more definitive median ridge, slightly off-center, and extending from the distal end toward the base, is abruptly terminated by an unworked depression. The blade edges from the base are ground for a distance of fifteen millimeters. A single flute terminating in a hinge fracture is noted on the proximal portion of the obverse face while only a minute spall has been detached from the base on the reverse side.

Projectile point H, from the Millard Olson Collection, is lanceolate in outline with a deep basal concavity and pronounced lateral projections. The blade edges are parallel and begin to taper toward the distal end at the point of maximum breadth located slightly below the mid-section. Both faces exhibit broad, irregular, transverse flake scars. Limited secondary retouching is noted on the blade edges and the basal concavity. Grinding is evidenced in the basal concavity and extends along the edges for one-third the length of the blade. The flutes on both faces terminate in hinge fractures.

The fluted point tradition, at best, is poorly understood within the state of Iowa. No exact chronological range for this type has been determined, and to date, all finds have been from surface collections made by non-professionals. In the western portion of the United States fluted projectile points have been found in association with extinct Pleistocene faunal remains, but this relationship has not been established in Iowa. That this tradition existed and was well-represented is certain, but the geological and faunal relationships are unclear. In fact, we do not even know what constitutes the total artifactual assemblage of this tradition.

Significantly, all reported fluted points in extreme northeastern Iowa have known provenience, but their cultural contexts are ambiguous. For example, those from the Harold Lovlein Collection were found in association with side-notched, corner-notched, and triangular types. Overall, the distribution of the eleven fluted points suggests a settlement pattern along the tributary streams of the Upper Iowa River positioned between two environmental zones: riverine and prairie.

A complete evaluation and distributional analysis of fluted projectile points is critically needed in Iowa. Continued assessment of this tradition in the northeastern region will hopefully culminate in the excavation of a site containing fluted points which will shed new light on the Big-Game-Hunters.

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Pt.No.	Blade L	Blade W	Blade Th	Base W	Base Concavity	Flutes # per Face	Flutes L	Flutes W	Weight	Color	Material	Location
A	72	21	8	19	-	1/3	17/21	9.1/9	12.8 gm	Reddish-gray	Quartzite	Winneshiek
B	52	20	6.5	21	4.5	2/2	26/22.5	15/13	7.7 gm	White	Quartzite	Allamakee
C	-	-	3.5	19	4.5	1/1	-	15/15	-	Mottled Black	Quartzite	Winneshiek
D	68.5	24.5	6.6	23	6.5	3/3	53/45.5	13/15	11.8 gm	Ivory	Chert	Winneshiek
E	57.5	25.5	7.5	25	5	2/3	35/30	20/18	11.4 gm	Gray	Quartzite	Winneshiek
F	59.5	25	9.7	16.5	1.5	3/1	26.5/11.5	14.5/14.2	12.5 gm	Mottled White	Quartzite	Winneshiek
G	79.3	22.7	7.5	20	5	1/2	20/13	7.4/8.3	15.8 gm	Salmon	Chert	Winneshiek
H	94	30	6.5	29.8	7.5	1/2	26.5/33.5	19.5/17	21.5 gm	White	Chert	Winneshiek

Measurements in millimeters and denote maximums.
Flute measurements based on distance from line connecting lateral projections to termination of longest flute.

The 1971 summer Archeological research in Iowa finally got underway after many uncertainties caused mostly by money matters. As a result we could not inform the members of the different activities going on in the State.

Adrian Anderson and Dr. McKusick are under fire from a Woman's and an American Indian Liberation front, due to the exhumation of a burial uncovered near Pacifica, Ia.

A shell midden was reported by the Southeast Chapter President George Baker. This site near Selma, Ia. was investigated by Dean Straffin, Parsons College and the State Archeologists Office. A very badly disturbed Woodland (?) burial was reported to your Editor. Large rim and body sherds of cord marked pottery were found as well as some badly deteriorated skeletal remains. It is possible that the plow just got the top of a large pot since there are only rim and shoulder sherds found at this site.

It could help the Society's membership program if every member would give a friend or fellow collector the brochure which was enclosed in the last N/L. It is a fact that many collectors are unaware that I A S is in existence. Hometown libraries and schools might be contacted for memberships. It might be a fine gesture to send a friend an early Christmas present in the form of a paid-up membership.

Archeology is one of the fastest growing professions and hobbies in the U.S. An expanded membership would provide us with funds to increase the Society's publication program.

Life memberships are still available for $50.00, and after this year will be raised.

Finally, let's get some new find reports, pics or sketches into this office so we can turn out a whole N/L on articles by the amateurs among us.

"REMEMBER THE BERTRAND" D. Spears

NEW MEMBERS

ACTIVE

Millie Burnham		Oskaloosa
Darwin Hardisty	(Renewal)	Corning
Woodrow W. West	(Renewal)	Ottumwa
John E. Dallman		Mazomania, WI.
David W. Nystuen		St. Paul, Minn.

INSTITUTIONAL

Iowa Masonic Library	Cedar Rapids
Iowa City Public Library	Iowa City
Washington University Library	St. Louis, Mo.
P.M. Musser Public Library	Muscatine

IOWA ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
OFFICE OF THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR
SOUTHEAST CHAPTER
536 S. DAVIS ST.
OTTUMWA, IOWA 52501

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