

WARNING (Box 0023)

Before the purchase of these historical and prehistoric artifacts or can we refer to them as true antiques, We request that you take an oath to yourself to take care to preserve your possession. You now have assume the role as a "time keeper" and it is your responsibility to see that the artifacts are properly handled and cared for. Unlike antiques, most artifacts were manufactured by humans prior to any written history. These can be truly classified as antiques. Enjoy, admire, and touch what you have acquired. However, when you are no longer interested in the artifacts it is your responsibility to properly pass them on to others who possess the respect and interest that you had. Real artifacts are part of our past that cannot be replaced or truly reproduced. Please retain all pertinent data provided with each artifact to ensure the interest in this hobby continues with the respect it deserves. Remove each piece, touch them, and feel the spirits from the past.

Listed items are marked on back with the identification number. A green dot on the back indicates that the item is partially restored. Items are listed in a clockwise pattern starting at the left top corner position.

0023A-- BLANK BLADE -- This is a primary blank for making a point knife blade or hand knife. This large flake was pounded off a large rock. It was then worked into a teardrop shape by removing large chips using by striking the large flake with a smaller special pounding rock. One edge was then pressure flaked as evident by the smaller chips that were removed. This is made of a limestone from Bainbridge Georgia. These primary blanks were often traded to other tribes who did not have access to good rock and especially flint. Period of time is unknown but probably came from the Archaic Period 5,000 to 1,000 BC

0023B-- SAVANNAH RIVER -- Typically found in Savannah River valley including southeast especially around north Florida, south Georgia and southwest Alabama. Many are large and were used as spears or knife blades. This is from around Bainbridge Georgia, Decatur County. Age is 5000 to 2000 BC. This particular one is only partially finished and is a good example of the next step in construction of the blank 0023A. Made of hard limestone.

0023C-- POTTERY, SAINT JOHNS CHECKED STAMP -- From North West Florida - Bainbridge Georgia area. Made by pressing a carved wood handle into the damp clay. Age 500 BC to 100 AD.

0023D -- BONE PINS and/or AWLS -- These were found in north central West Florida rivers (polished, brown or black finish and type indicate where they were found). These are made from fresh "green" bone, mainly deer however other bones were used. Larger bones were scored with a flint tool then split by snapping and ground into shape with native sandstone. They come in various lengths from 2" to 12" and widths from 1/8" to 3/4". A limited number are decorated at the top while the majority are not. Most are double pointed but usually only one end shows repeated sharpening. They have been found mounted inside a bone handle. Because of the wide variety of this artifact it is believed to have a wide variety of use. Some are used as points (arrowheads), awls, hair pins, cloths pins, hide holders when scraping and possible knives. These were mainly manufactured from the Paleo to Late Archaic Period (12,000 BC to 1,000 BC).

0023E -- POINT, HILLSBOROUGH -- Typically found in the Tampa Bay area of West Central Florida. This is made of agatized coral and came from Hillsborough County, Harney Road. From the middle Archaic Period 5000 to 3000 BC. Cream with orange point. Found by Nancy Hoff.

0023F-- POINT, HERNANDO- Found in Pasco County, Lake City, Florida area. Made of hard agatized coral. They are concentrated from west central Florida and along the Gulf Coast. From the Woodland Period (2500 - 2,000 BC.) These are normally small points which were hafted and may have been propelled with bows or an atlatls or spear throwers.

0023G -- POINT, LAFAYETTE -- Referred to as a Lafayette which were produced in the Middle to Late Archaic Period (1,000 to 5,000 BC). Point is partially restored. These large points were hafted to spears and propelled by atlatls or spear throwers.

0023H -- POINT, COPENA -- Referred to as a Copena. More common in Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee and Kentucky. It is from the Woodland Period (200 AD to 800 AD). Point is partially restored.

0023I -- SHELL BEADS --Shell beads (?) or bead blanks were found in 1986 in the Tennessee River around Decatur Alabama, Morgan County. These are from a very large cache of unfinished beads (?) (approximately 5 gallons of beads). These are made of common saltwater whelks from the Gulf of Mexico region. They probably date from the Mississippian Period (500-1600 AD) and were intended as trade purposes. These particular beads were not associated with any mortuary practice that could be determined. The most unusual is that some holes do not appear to be drill by a humans but by a predatory mollusk found in ocean. Perhaps they thought the "Gods" did this and brought them to interior Alabama. It is questioned whether these are crude beads, blanks for making beads, or some other shell item. Note the picture to the left and the shell pieces sewn on the blouse. This may be the way these were used.