

WARNING (Box 0036)

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.

Sincerely Frank & Nancy Hoff, 1999, Pasttime Artifacts

Specific items, points are partially restored using epoxy putty and acrylic paints. A green dot on the back indicates that the item is partially restored. Items are listed in a clockwise pattern starting the rectangular shell item in the upper right corner by the picture.

0036A & B -- SHELL SPOONS -- This case has two types of spoons. The first (rectangular piece) is the most common and is made of quahog clam shell. To the right is a more elaborate one carved from a whelk shell (lip region). It has sanded edges and shows more wear from use. Due to the larger size it could also have been used as a kitchen spoon for stirring soup stew etc. We have actually found the former lying inside a large quahog clam shell dish just as they left it. Shell material is no doubt wide spread but due to the acid soils little is found at inland sites. From Cedar Keys, Florida

0036C -- SHELL POUNDER -- This is relatively common small shell pounder made from a Melangena Whelk shell. These small pounders are fairly abundant and found along coastal sites. A wood shaft handle was inserted through the two holes on the side and then secured with binding. They probably had multiple uses. We believe they were used to make shell tools, spoons, drinking cups etc. from clam and whelk shells. They may also be used when harvesting oysters to knock off attached dead shell and substrate and to separate live ones when attached to others. To some degree they may have been used in wood work. Found in Cedar Keys Florida

0036D -- SHELL DRILLS or AWLS -- These are made by removing the outer whorls of a whelk shell exposing the inner columells (centers). They are then ground or chipped to make them sharp. These may or may not have been hafted. They have multiple uses including drills, awls, chisels, perhaps wedges or chipping tools. No doubt they were mainly used in wood working. Found in Cedar Keys, Florida.

0036E- SAND CAST TRADE BEADS - These are believed to have come from Africa. We do not know if they were traded in the USA. They are over 100 years old.

0036F -- SHELL BEADS -- Shell beads were found in 1977 by Bob Hendricks and Gary Moore in Hamphreys County Tennessee. These are from a very large cache of finished beads (approximately 200 gallons of beads). These are made of common freshwater snail of this region. They date from the Mississippian Period (800-1600 AD) and were intended as trade purposes. These particular beads were not associated with any mortuary practice. An article about this find was published in the Nashville Tennessean in 1977 (exact date unknown).

0036G-- POINT, CITRUS - This is a Florida` Transitional period point from the Late Archaic Period (1,200 - 500 B.C.). These are probably more common in central to North Florida. Related to the Eva point of the Southeast USA. Can be distinguished by the curved backs. Made of hard limestone.

0036 H-- SHELL DRINKING SCOOP -- Made from the outer whorle of a lighting whelk. Beside being used for shallow drinking scoop it could also be used as a serving ladle or a stirring spoon. There are a multiple types of drinking vessels made of shell with and without handles. Found in Cedar Keys, Florida.

0036I -- BONE PINS and/or AWLS -- Found in north central West Florida rivers (polished, brown or black finish and type indicate where they were found). Made from fresh bone, mainly deer however, other were used. Bone was scored with a flint tool then split by snapping and ground into shape with native sandstone. Lengths vary from 2" to 12" and widths from 1/8" to 3/4". Limited numbers are decorated at the top. Short ones are often double pointed but usually only one end shows repeated sharpening. Found mounted inside bone handles. Wide variety of this artifact indicates a variety of uses including points (arrowheads), awls, hair pins, cloths pins, hide holders when scraping and possibly knives. Manufactured from the Paleo to Historical Periods (12,000 BC to 1700 AD).

0036J-- POINT, BRADFORD -- This point is from the Weeden Island, Hickory Pond, St. Johns Period (200 - 1,200 A.D.). A medium size point with an expanded tang which is narrower than the blade and has a straight excurvate base. Workmanship is usually only fair. This one is from Hamilton County Florida.

0036K -- POINT, LEON -- This is from Weedon Island, Hickory Pond, St. Johns 1A (200 to 1200 AD). A small corner notched, trianguloid to ovate with nearly straight base and rounded corners. These are usually well chipped.

Photo, Upper Left -- Tonto Apache Woman - Photographer and date are unknown. This Tonto Apache women's clothing is not everyday apparel. Apache women liked calico and frequently wore dresses or blouses made from this fabric. The feathers in her hair are from an eagle or hawk. She is wearing a multitude of different glass trade beads.

Photo, Bottom Right -- Apache Tipi - Taken in 1903 by Edward S. Curtis. This bush dwelling is commonly called a wickup, built by Apache women in about 3 days. Oak and willow poles are anchored in the ground and bound with yucca-leaf strands, then covered with bundles of grass. Note also the excellent basketry outside the dwelling. This is a typical home for many tribes over centuries.