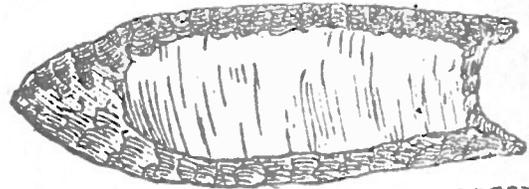


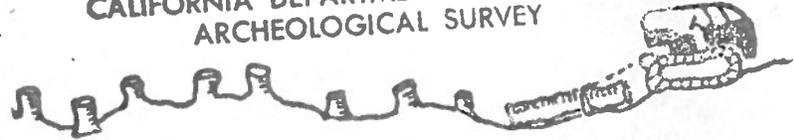
An Artifact Collection From the
Goose Lake Region
Modoc County, California

Dan Foster
California Department of Forestry
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1516-22
Sacramento, California 95314
(916) 322-0171

COURTESY OF:



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY
ARCHEOLOGICAL SURVEY



April 28, 1983

Introduction

A relatively large collection of artifacts were collected over several years by the Cloud family from their ranch and adjacent properties in the Goose Lake Basin. The Clouds generously allowed the writer to examine the collection and briefly document its provenience and description. 329 artifacts were examined and photographed with color-slide and color-print film using a photo stand. A bar scale in centimeters was included in each photograph. About four hours were spent sorting through the material so similar forms could be photographed together; however, this work was superficial and incomplete and readers should not assume that all like forms are grouped. The artifacts remain in the possession of the Clouds; the original photographs and negatives are on file at CDF in Sacramento but will eventually be catalogued into the photo repository at the Department of Parks and Recreation Archeology Lab in West Sacramento.

Discovery Locations

This artifact collection has special value because it was all recovered from a single geographic province - the south end of the Goose Lake Basin (see attached map). The only exception to this is a possible sandstone "footlast" (Fig. 1, #17) which came from central Nevada. In addition to the fact that foreign artifacts are not included in the collection, it has additional value because "most" of the material was recovered from a relatively small (±200 acre) area on the flats along the east shore of Goose Lake about 5 miles south of the Oregon border. This area is farmed by the Clouds, and the bulk of the material reported here was collected after the fields were disced and plowed. A portion of the collection was recovered from Fandango Valley and from the south end of Goose Lake.

Artifactual Material Types

Almost all of the chipped-stone specimens are fashioned from high-quality obsidian, but other material types are also present. Most of the ground stone artifacts are of grano-diorite, but some were formed from vesicular basalt and pumice. The large bifaces (Fig. 3, #1, 2, 3, 5, 8) are fashioned from a fine-grained chert or metavolcanic material which closely resembles obsidian but is not. The biface illustrated on Figure 4, #3 is a tan-colored chert. Two of the large stemmed points are not of obsidian. Figure 6, #50 is dark, fine-grained metavolcanic, and #53 is chalcedony. Figure 7, #35 and 51 are also of chalcedony. Figure 8, #37, 57, 62, and 64 are of fine-grained chert or chalcedony. A few artifacts from bone and baked clay are also present in the collection.

Figure Descriptions

The following comments refer to the 9 figures included in this report.

Figure 1: A polished bone flaking tool (#1, 9) made from a mammalian diaphysis fragment. The proximal end of this tool is rounded off asymmetrically and is remarkably similar to illustrated bone tools from Surprise Valley in this respect (O'Connell 1975: Fig. 6). Another worked-bone artifact fragment is present (#2, 10). A ceramic pipe bowl (#3, 11) finished at the bottom with no stem - perhaps was smoked in cupped hands? A small, flat, red water-worn pebble (#6, 14) has four small, round flakes removed on each surface - probably a gaming stone indicating the number 4. A biconically (?) drilled stone object (#7, 15). Three unusual scrapers or cutting tools (#4-12, 5-13, 8-16) fashioned from intrusive material. A sandstone object resembling a human foot or shoe and is thought (by the owner) to be a possible footlast or moc-casin last (#17).

Figure 2: A shaped and polished object of grano-diorite is a remarkable specimen in the collection (#1, 2, 3). It is triangular with rounded corners, a flat bottom, and concave sides. The shoulder which borders the concavity on each side is thinned at the top end. While this object is unfamiliar to me, it is apparently rather common to the region. Several similar objects are photographed in a local pothunters book (Howe 1968: Fig. 123, 124), and local archeologists have seen them. One fist-sized grano-diorite cobble with an incised groove is present (#4, 7) but is unlikely to be an arrow-shaft straightener because the groove is narrow and exhibits a V-shaped rather than a U-shaped cross section. An oval-shaped stone with a groove around the longest circumference is present in the collection (#5, 8)

and may be a bolo stone for hunting waterfowl. A lemon-shaped charmstone (#6, 9) is present and is identical to specimens found throughout the western Great Basin and eastern California (Foster 1983, Wilson 1956, Riddell 1960).

Figure 3: This is a collection of foliate bifaces and blanks. Specimens 1 and 2 are remarkably large, 25 x 9 and 22 x 6 centimeters respectively. These two are made from a dark chert or other non-obsidian cryptocrystalline material and are thought by the owners to be "skinning knives". They seem too well-formed and finished to be trading blanks, but no obvious edge-wear was noted on either specimen. It seems likely that many of the medium-sized specimens functioned as hafted knives, but no obvious edge-wear was noted. There are also several examples (such as #15) of ridged bifaces which have been called "humpies".

Figure 4: This figure illustrates more examples of bipointed knives, oval bifaces, and preforms or blanks. Specimen 8 is a projectile point with an expanding stem and possibly of an early time period (Riddell: personal communication).

Figure 5: Specimens 1-23 are more leaf-shaped bifaces with both broad and narrow types represented. Many of these (#5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 13, 16, 21) exhibit an asymmetrical outline at the base as if a small notch is deliberately removed.

Chipped-stone crescents are also present (#24-28). These objects have been found at numerous localities in the West, often in an early lacustrine context, and in north-eastern California they have been found in possible association with Great Basin Stemmed style projectile points which are present in this collection as well.

Three complete and five fragmentary Northern Side Notched projectile points were identified (#29-36). Specimens 37-46 and 53-54 are small, finely-worked obsidian bifaces or knives. Specimens 55-70 are a mixture of corner notched or stemmed points.

Figure 6: All of the 53 projectile points illustrated in this figure are obsidian except #50 which is a dark-colored chert or metavolcanic and #53 which is fashioned from chalcedony. Several examples of Elko Corner Notched, Elko Eared, and Pinto points (#1-47) are present as well as 6 stemmed points (#48-53).

Specimens 48-51 are quite similar to Parman Style 1 variants of Great Basin Stemmed Series projectile points reported by Tom Layton (1979: 52) from a nearby region. These all have long, parallel-sided or slightly contracting stems with rounded bases and exhibit edge-grinding. Specimens 52 and 53 have slightly shorter stems and do not indicate edge-grinding.

Figure 7: All points are of obsidian except #35 and 51 which are chalcedony. Northern Side Notched (#38-42), Humboldt (#49, 51, 53, 60), Gunther Barbed (#13, 14, 15, 58), Pinto or Elko Eared (#20-23, 25-33), and Eastgate (#24) projectile point types are probably represented.

Figure 8: These 73 artifacts are all obsidian except #37, 57, 62, and 64 which are chert or chalcedony. Specimens 1-59 are a mixture of small, stemmed and notched projectile point forms including probable representatives of the Rose Spring, Cottonwood, Eastgate, and Northern Side Notched Series. Four possible Gunther Barbed points (#54-56, 61) and one Desert Side Notched (#60) are present. Specimens 62-65 are awls or drills and 66-73 are similar to Elko Eared and Elko Corner Notched points.

Figure 9: These views illustrate many of the artifacts prior to sorting.

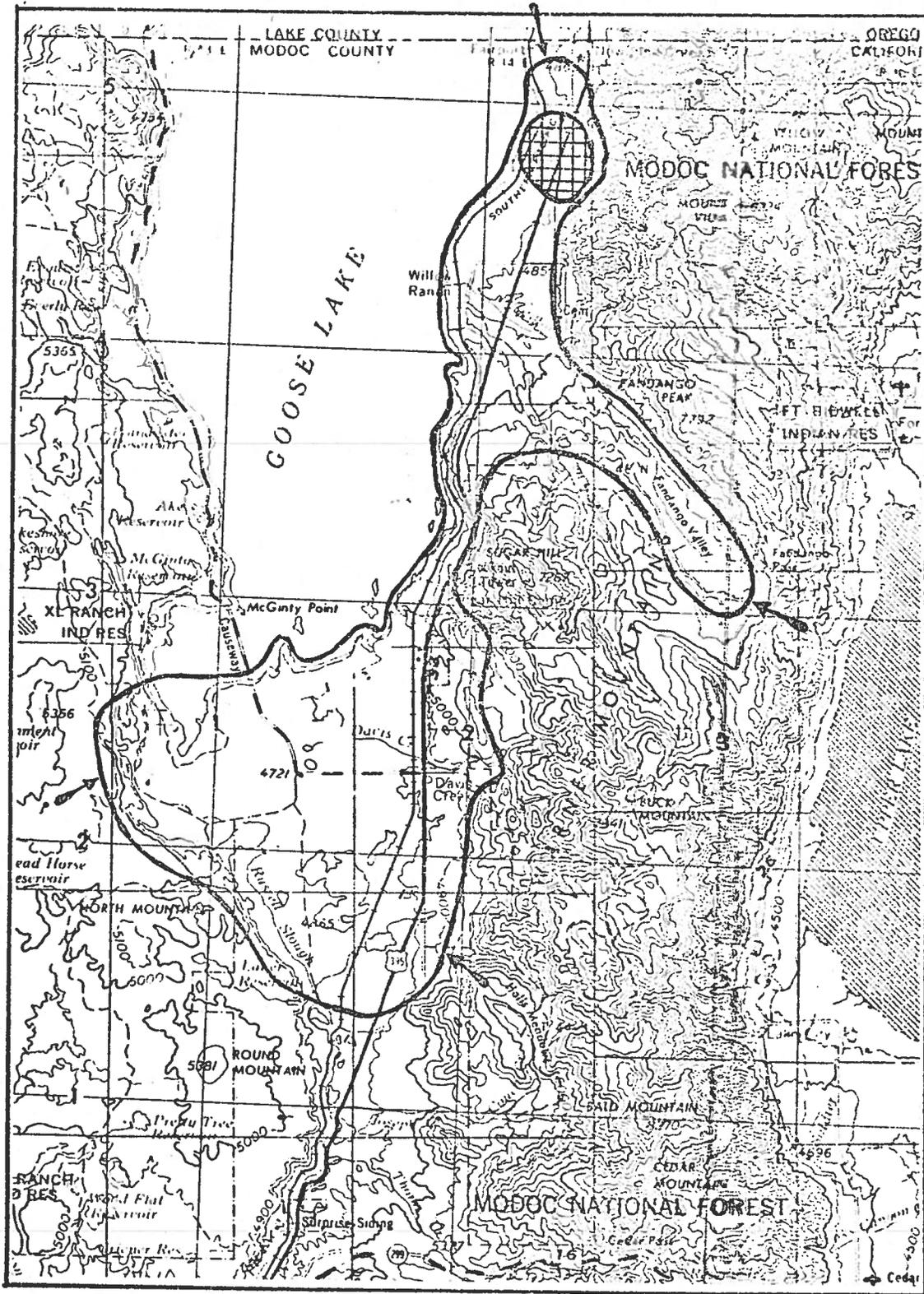
Conclusion

This is an important collection of artifacts which has great value for additional study. Some very early material is present such as examples of Great Basin Stemmed Series projectile points and crescentic artifacts which are thought to be about 7-10,000 years old (Hester and Heizer 1973, Layton 1979). The Elko, Rose Spring, and Pinto Series is also well represented as well as a fine collection of biface knives and projectile points. This material would be a useful aid to the preparation of projectile point typologies for the region.

References Cited

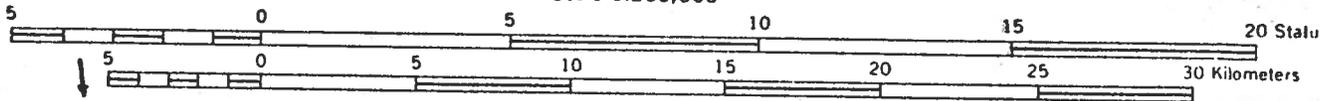
- Foster, Daniel G.
1983 Notes on the Holstrom Collection, Sierra Valley, California. Manuscript in author's possession.
- Hester, T. R. and R. F. Heizer
1973 Review and Discussion of Great Basin Projectile Points: Forms and Chronology, University of California Archaeological Research Facility, Berkeley.
- Howe, Carrol B.
1968 Ancient Tribes of the Klamath Country. Binford and Mort Publishers, Portland, Oregon.
- Layton, Thomas N.
1979 Archaeology and Paleo-Ecology of Pluvial Lake Parman, Northwestern Great Basin. Journal of New World Archaeology 3(3), pp 41-56.
- O'Connell, James F.
1975 The Prehistory of Surprise Valley. Ballena Press Anthropological Papers No. 4, Ramona.
- Riddell, Francis A.
1960 The Archaeology of the Karlo Site (Las-7), California. University of California Archaeological Survey Report No. 53.

1983 Personal communication on March 3, 1983.
- Wilson, Norman L.
1956 The Archaeology of the Loyaltan Rock Shelter, Sierra County, California. M.A. Thesis, Sacramento State College.



USGS 1 : 250,000 topographic quadrangle:
 ALTURAS, CA (1954 revised 1971)

Scale 1:250,000



= approximate maximum boundary
 of collection area

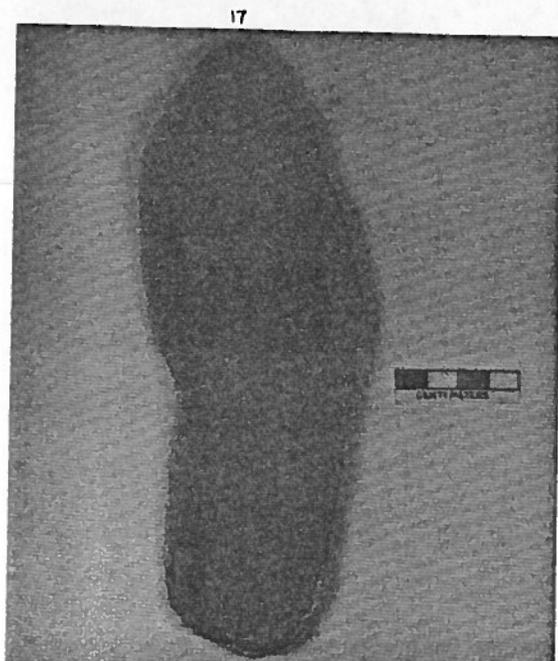
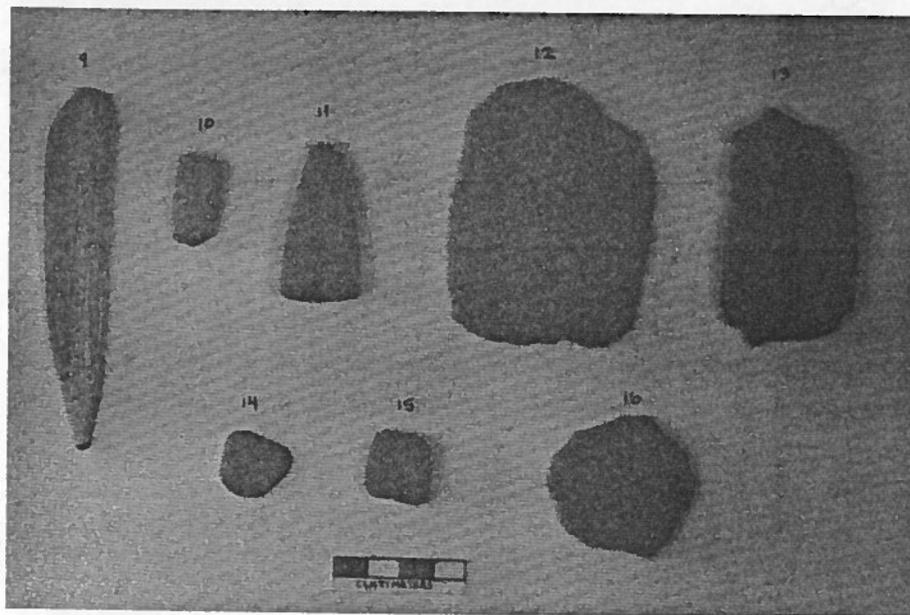
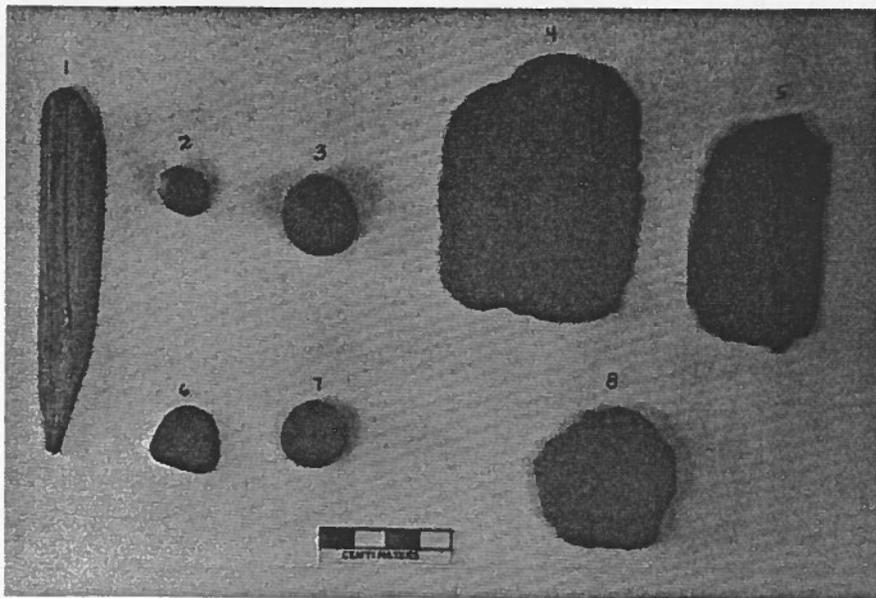


= location where most of the
 material was collected



Carroll and Amy Cloud
 Artifact Collection

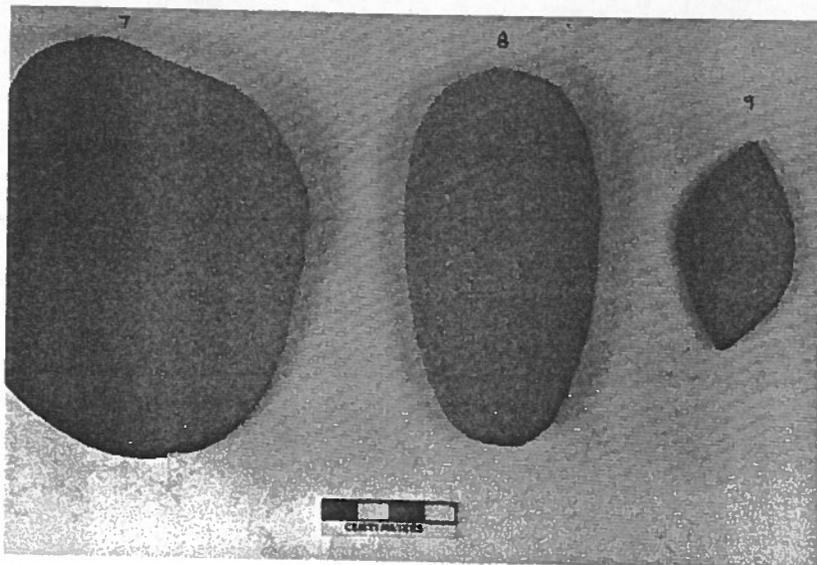
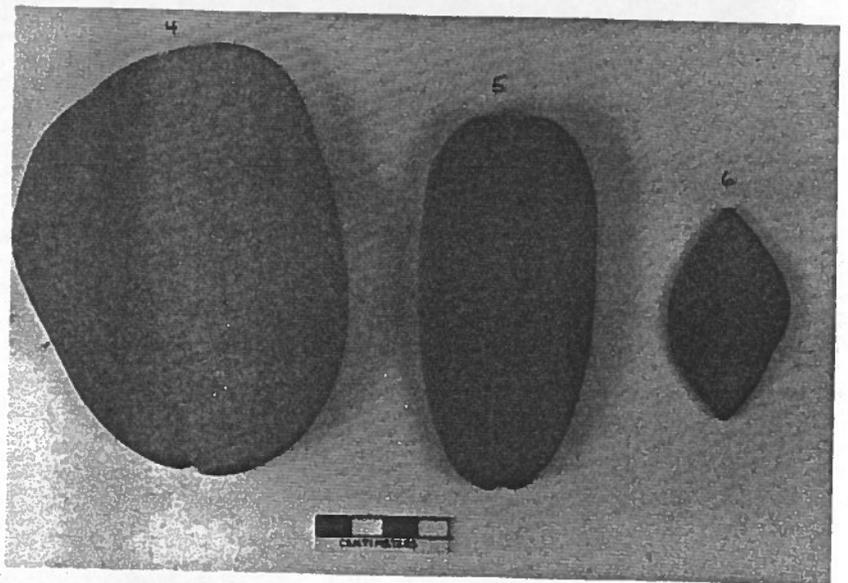
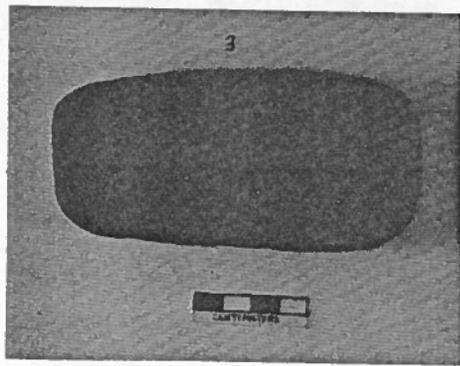
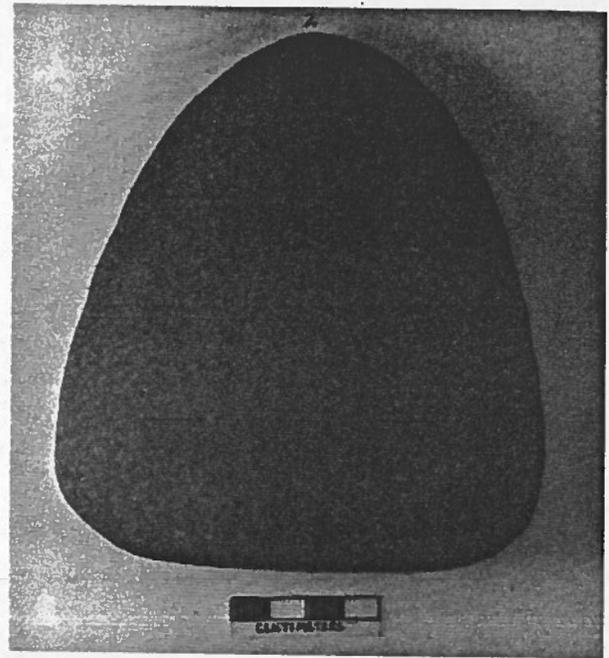
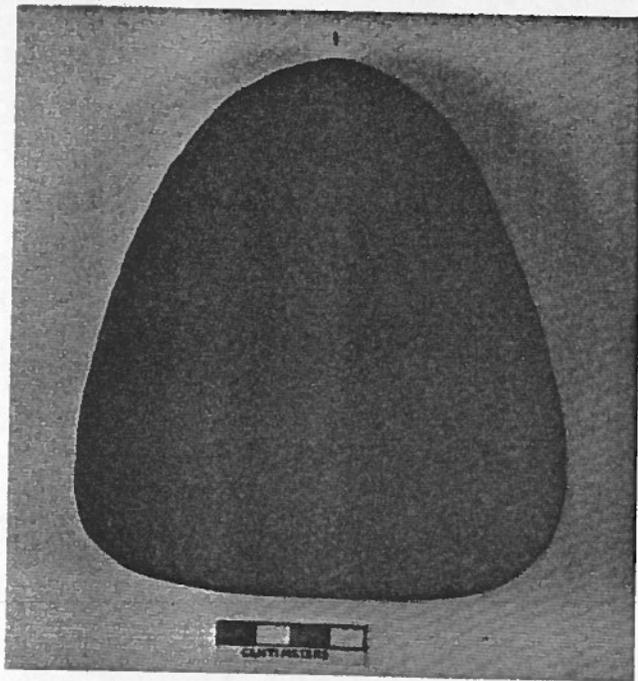
11/19/82



Carroll and Amy Cloud
Artifact Collection

FIGURE 1

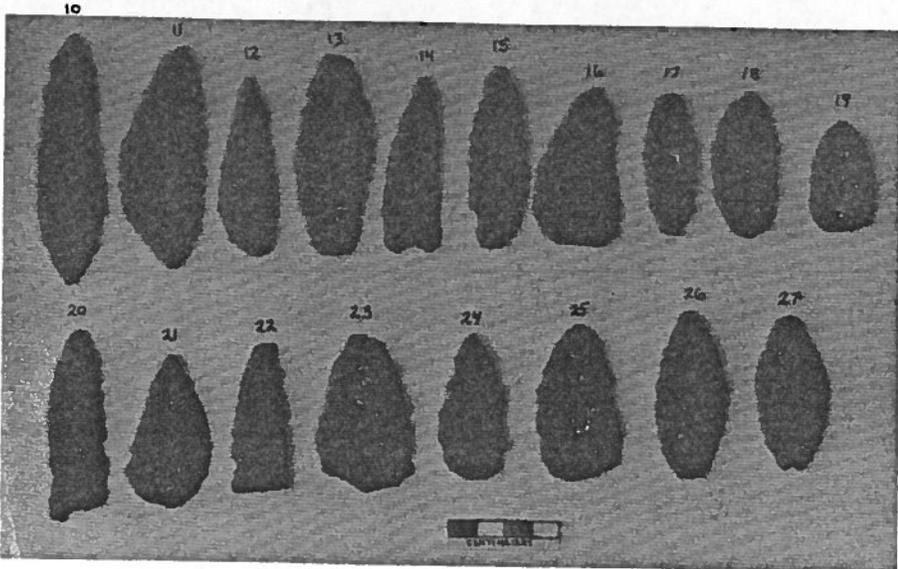
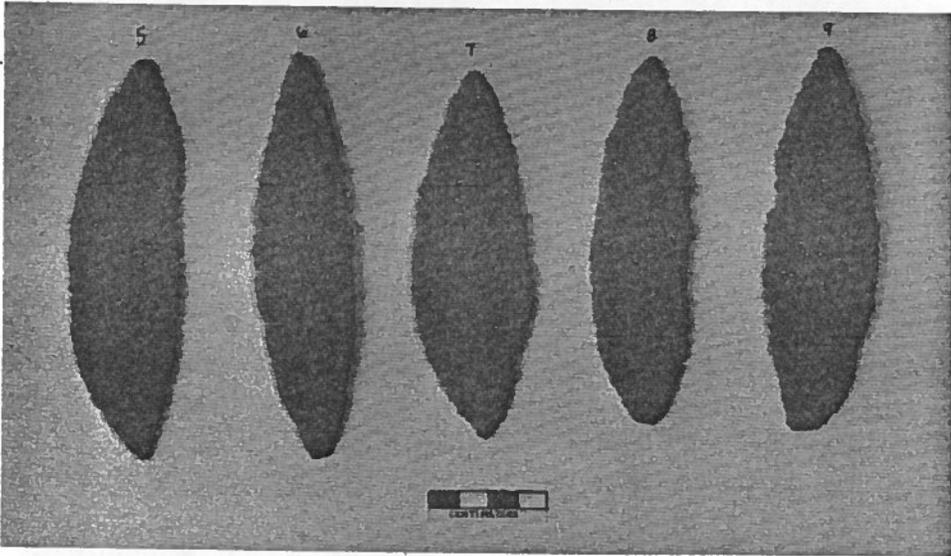
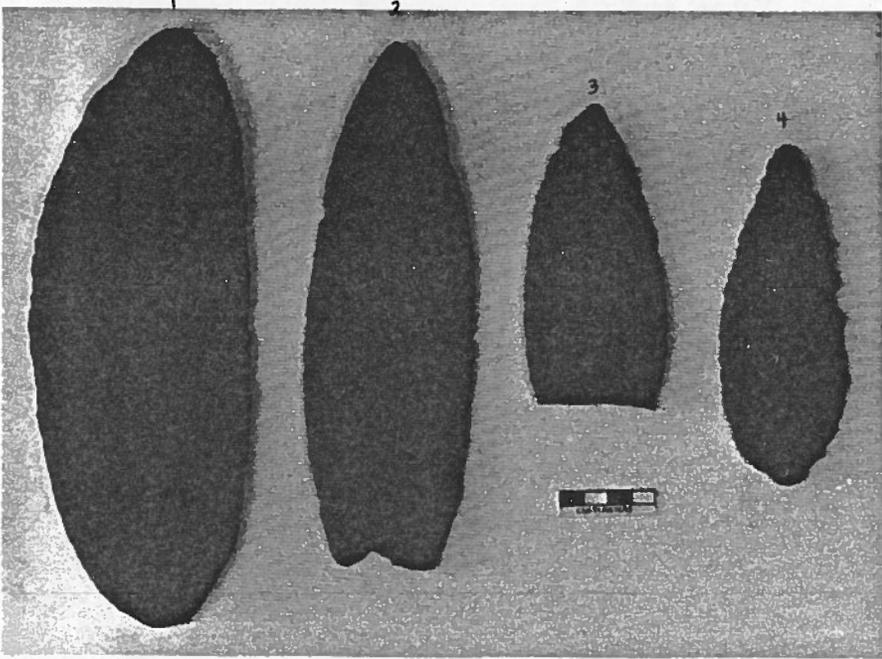
D. Foster
11/19/82



Carroll and Amy Cloud
Artifact Collection

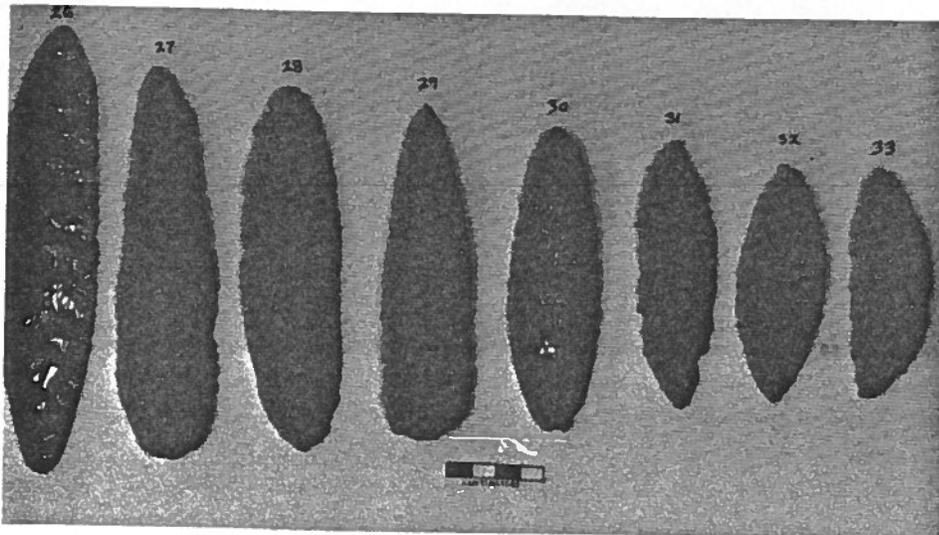
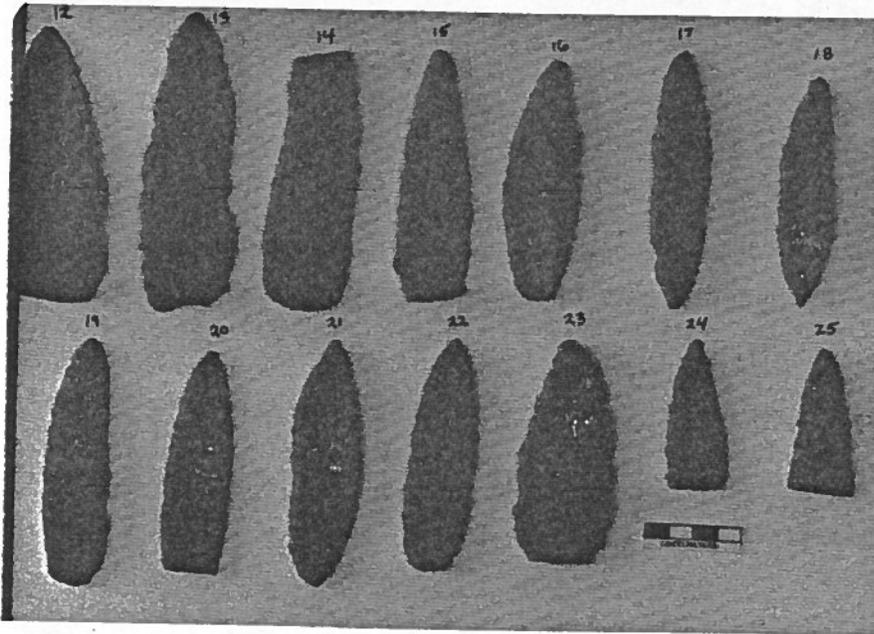
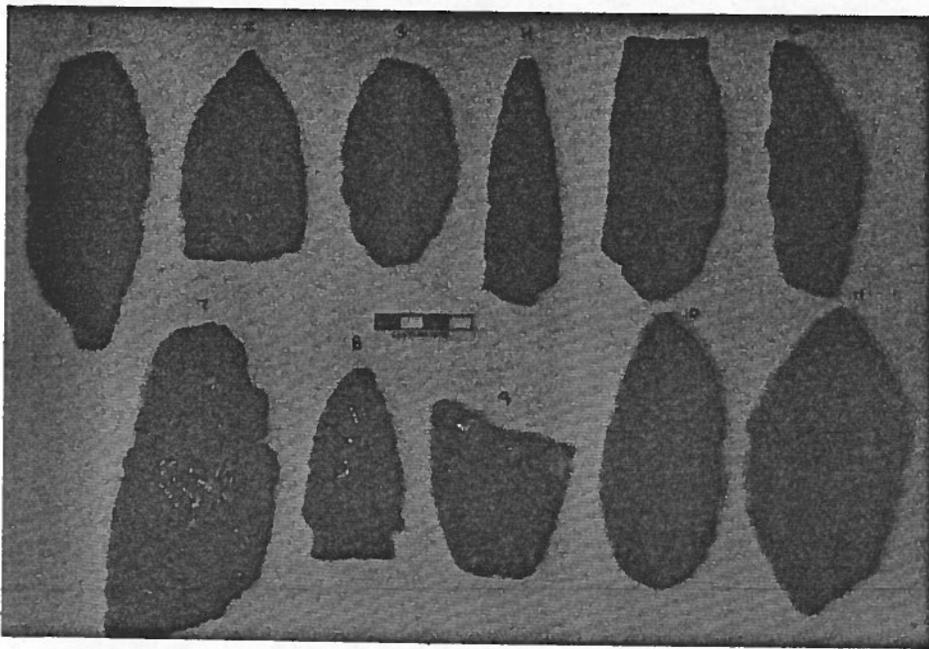
FIGURE 2

D. Foster
11/19/82



Carroll and Amy Cloud
Artifact Collection

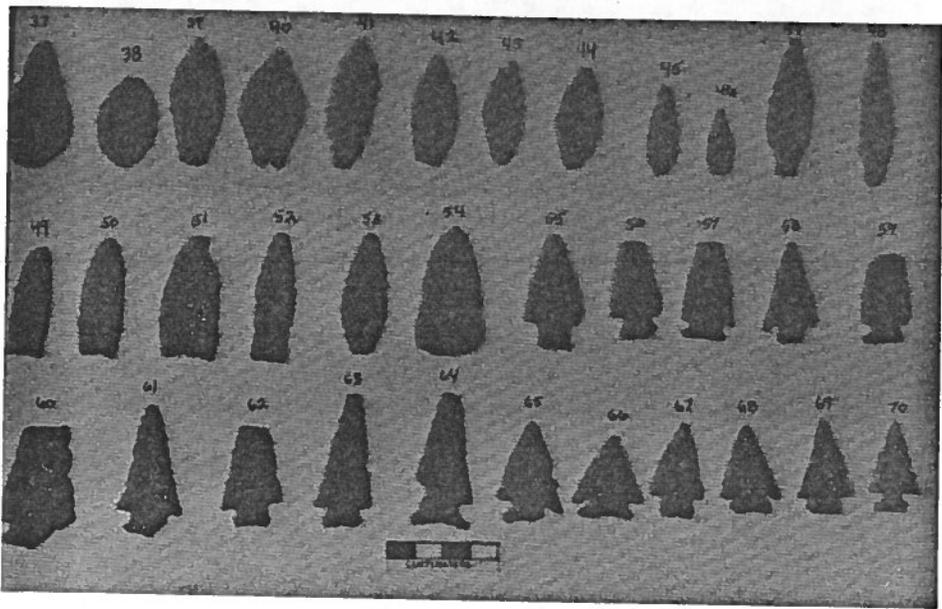
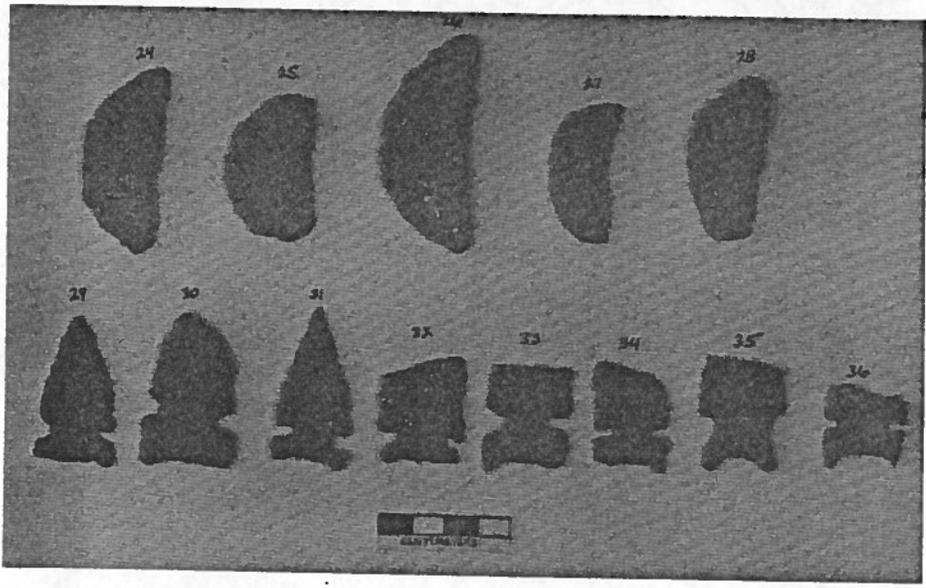
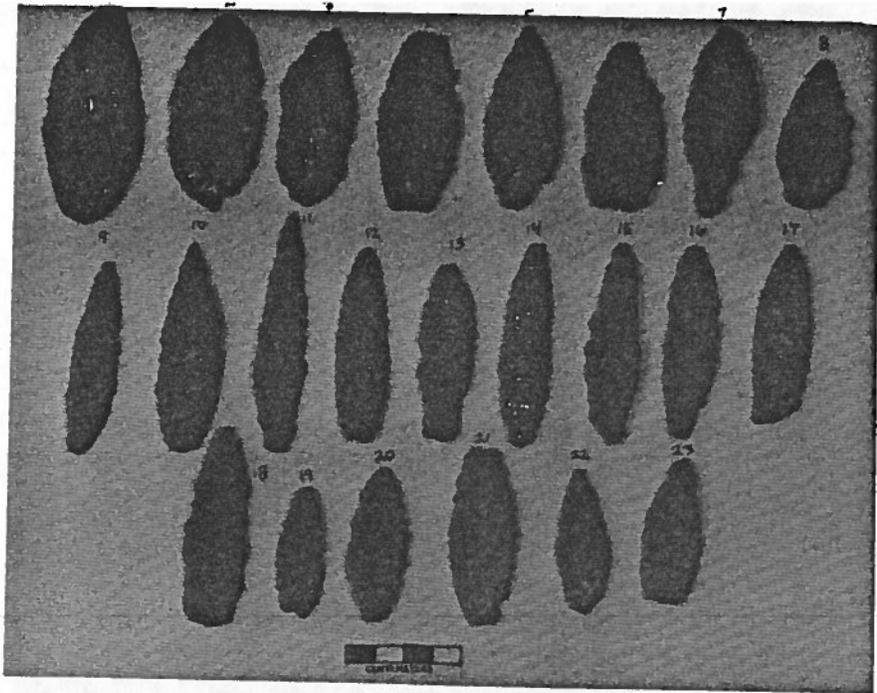
FIGURE 3



Carroll and Amy Cloud
Artifact Collection

FIGURE 4

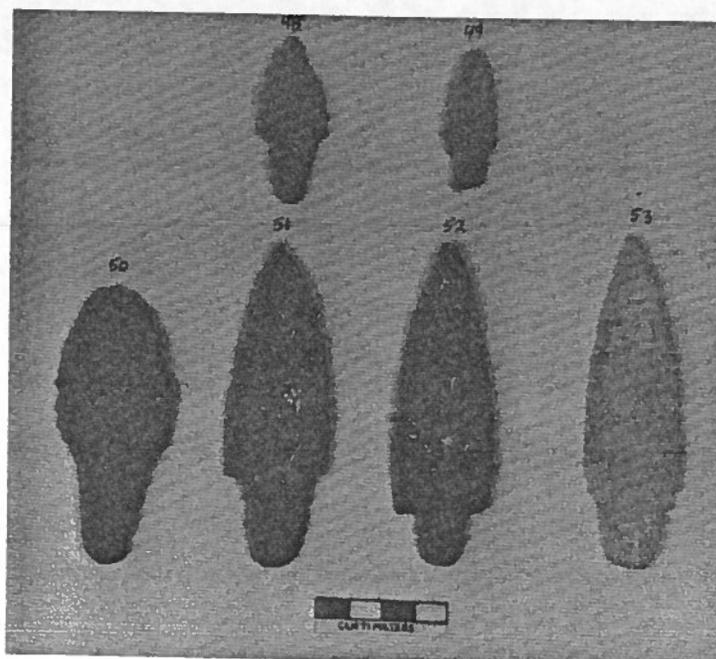
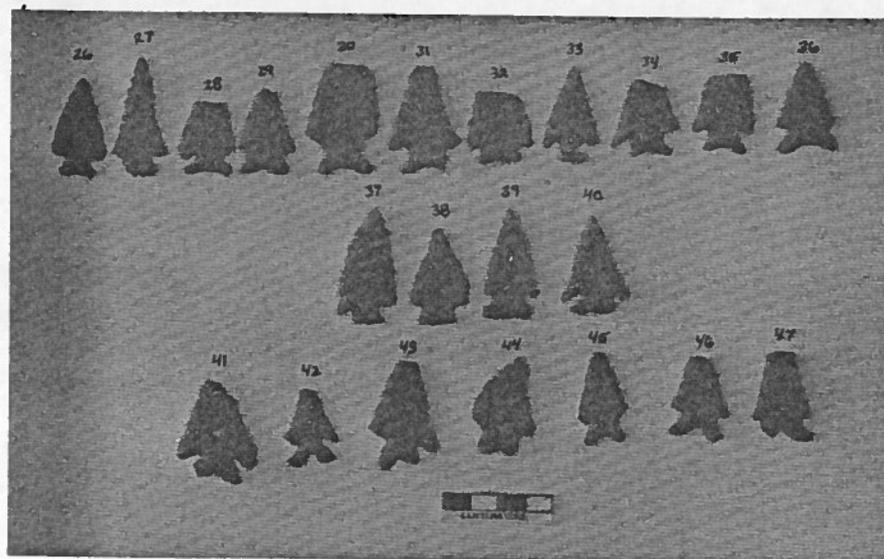
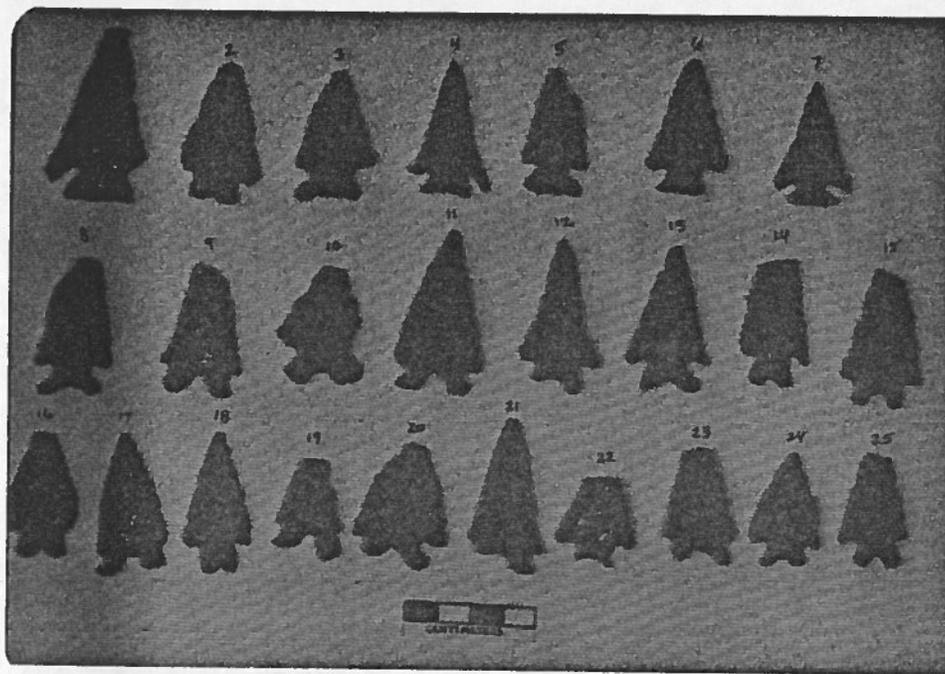
D. Foster
11/19/82



Carroll and Amy Cloud
Artifact Collection

FIGURE 5

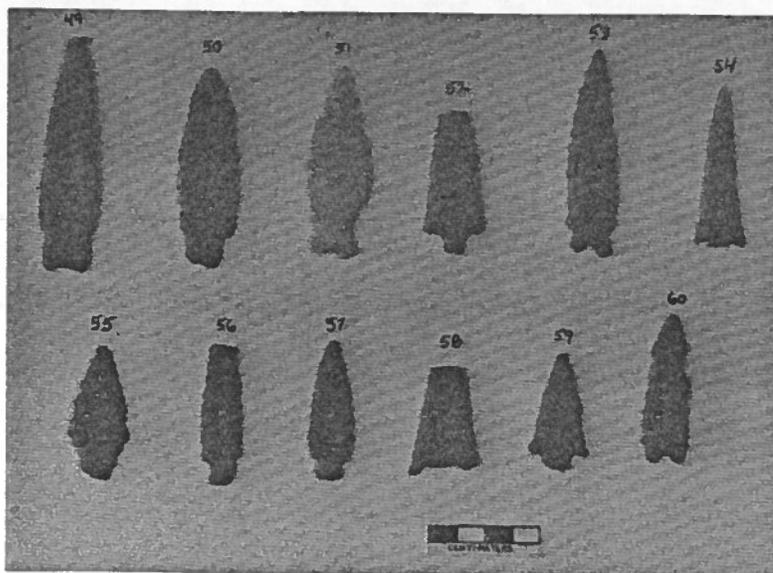
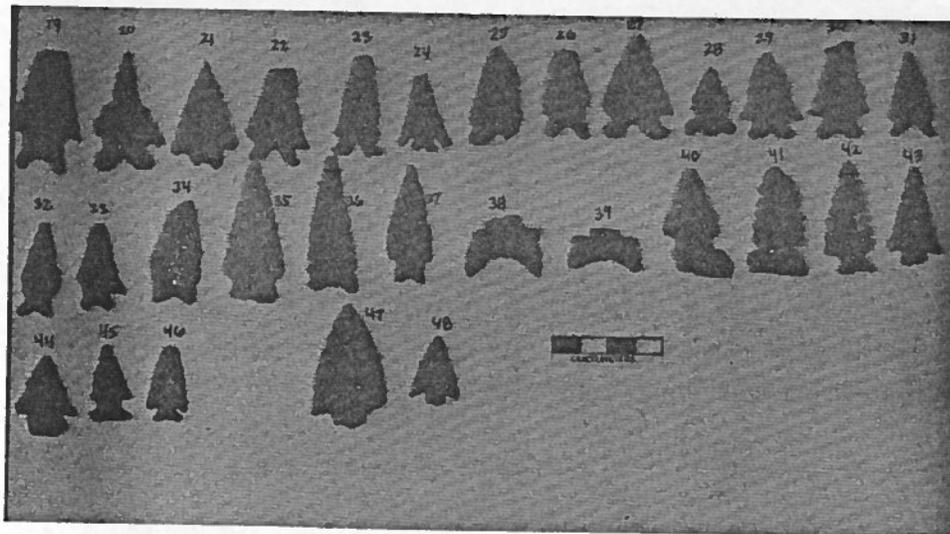
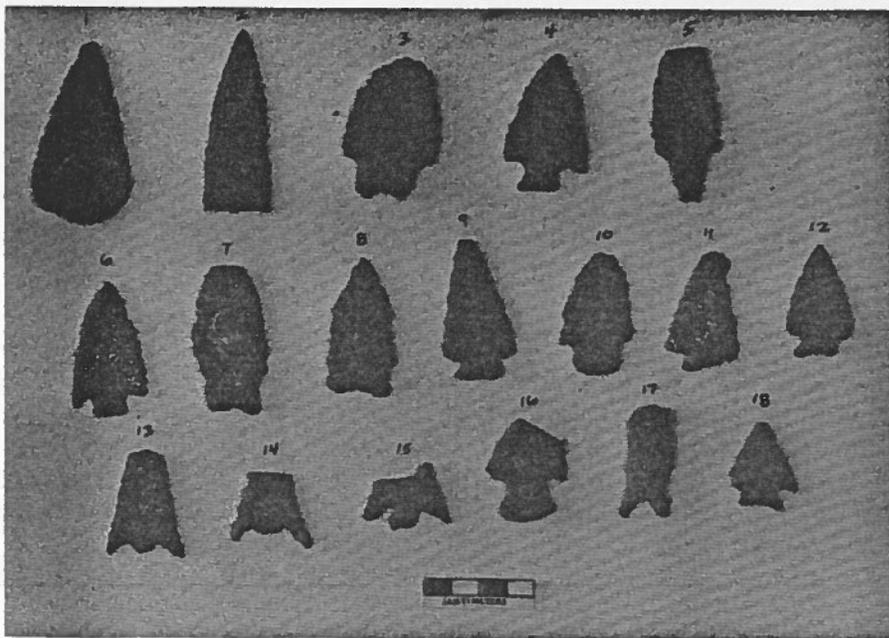
D. Foster
11/19/82



Carroll and Amy Cloud
Artifact Collection

FIGURE 6

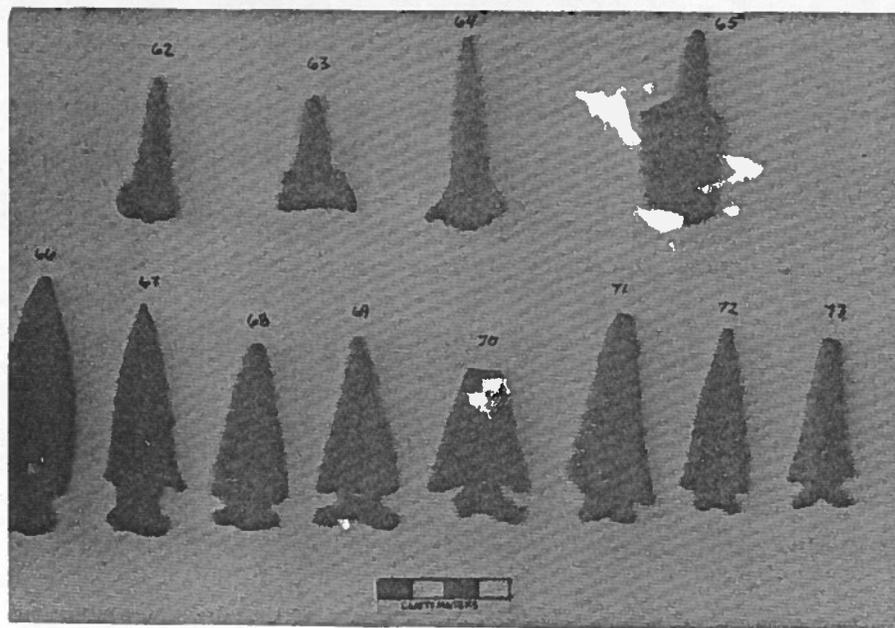
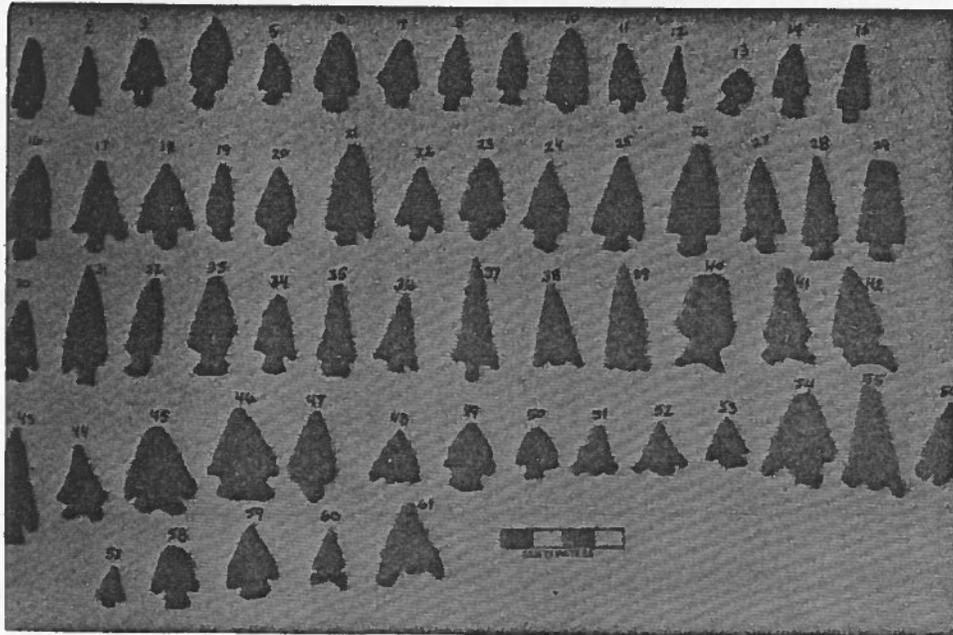
D. Foster
11/19/82



Carroll and Amy Cloud
Artifact Collection

FIGURE 7

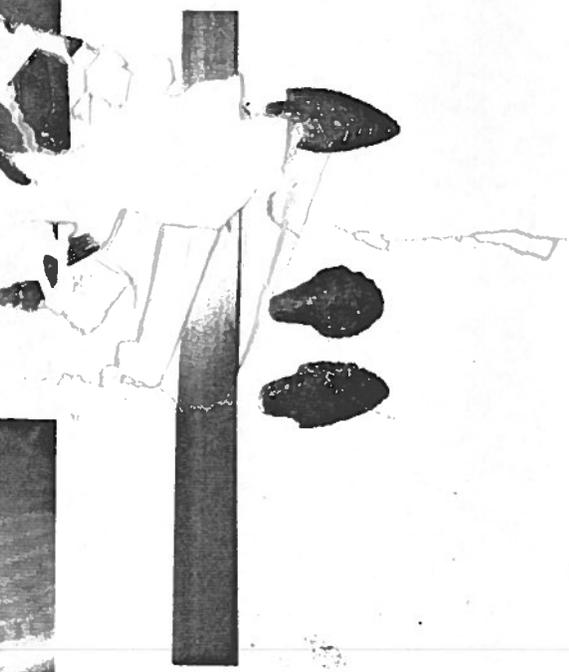
D. Foster
11/19/82



Carroll and Amy Cloud
Artifact Collection

FIGURE 8

D. Foster
11/19/82



Carroll and Amy Cloud
Artifact Collection

FIGURE 9

D. Foster
11/19/82