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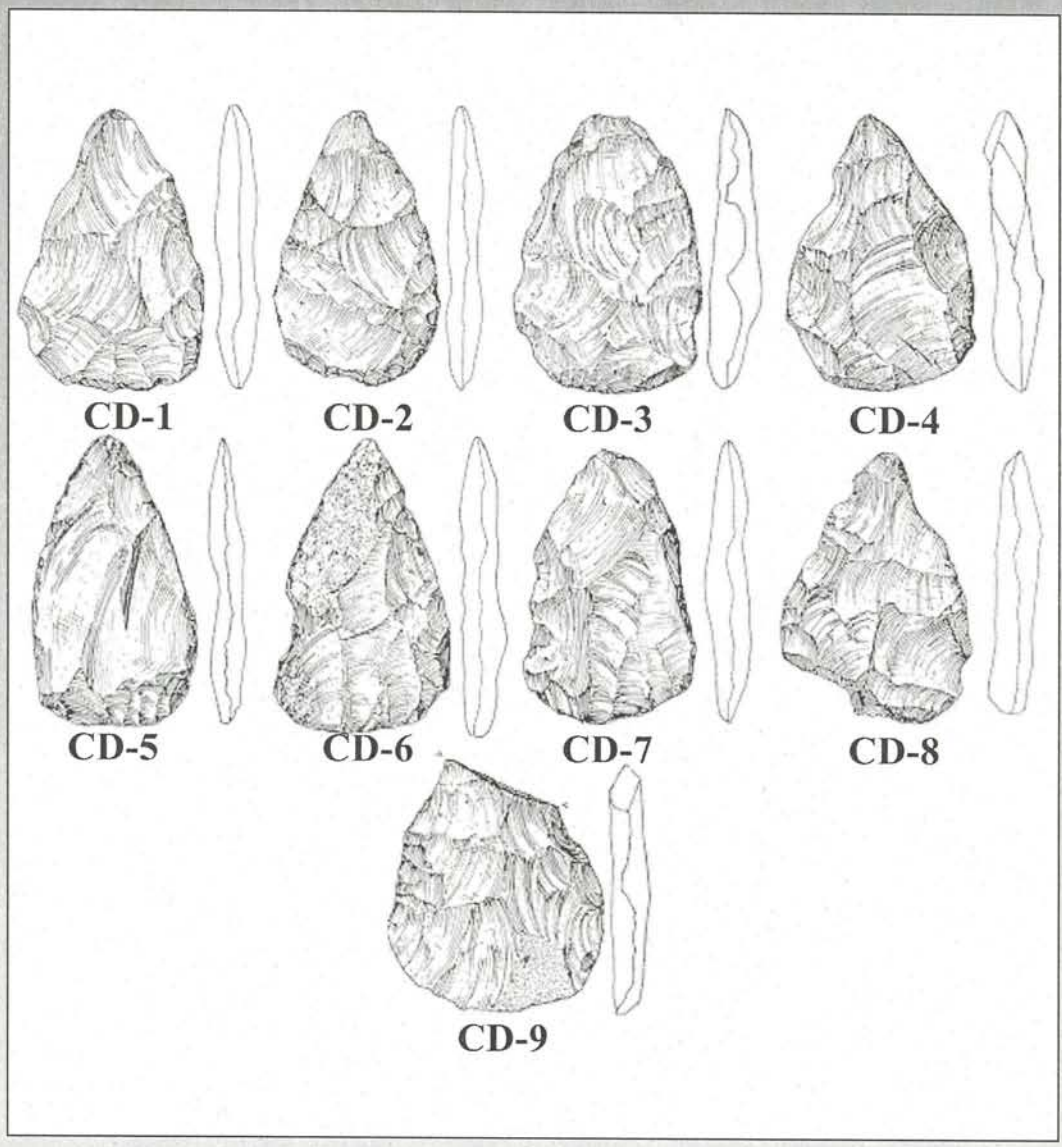

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Department of Anthropology
Boise State University
1910 University Drive
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Cover Photo: Drawings of Cedar Draw Cache by J. C. Woods, Herrett Center for the Arts and Sciences, Twin Falls, Idaho.

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ARTICLES AND REPORTS

THE CEDAR DRAW CACHE AND ITS RELATIONSHIP TO THE ROCK CREEK CACHE

Steve Kohntopp

INTRODUCTION

Sometime prior to December 15, 1993, Mr. Larry Malberg accidentally discovered the Cedar Draw Cache while working on a hydroelectric diversion dam on the banks of Cedar Draw stream northwest of Filer, Idaho. The Cedar Draw Cache, not previously reported in the archaeological record, is analyzed here for the first time. According to the U.S Department of Interior Geological survey map (Figure 1) the elevation at the site is 1296 m ASL. The site is located on private property in the southeast corner of Section 23, Township 9 South, Range 16 East Boise Meridian.

DESCRIPTION OF CACHE

The Cedar Draw Cache consists of 9 ignimbrite bifaces (Figures 2 and 3). Eight of the ovate bifaces appear to be preforms while the remaining biface appears to be an end scraper. All of the artifacts show evidence of patination. Due to visible cortex on two of the bifaces, it is suggested that a core flake technology was used in the manufacture of the bifaces. CD-9 appears to be an end scraper with a small area of cortex exposed. Preform CD-4 shows a straight flat platform extending from the distal end along the upper right margin of Side A. This straight flat platform appears to be a portion of the original core platform. Preform CD-6 exhibits substantial cortex on one margin (Figure3).

Source analysis using X-ray fluorescence was conducted. It has been determined that the source material for all nine preforms came from the Brown's Bench geochemical source. Brown's Bench ignimbrite is exposed at several quarries located approximately 70 km south of the cache site (Skinner and Thatcher 2002a:2).

Obsidian Hydration Analysis was also conducted and it was determined that all of the artifacts were statistically identical in age. The hydration rim width was 7.1 microns for five bifaces and 7.2 microns for four bifaces (Skinner and Thatcher 2002a:4). Mr. Craig Skinner of Northwest Obsidian Lab would not assign a time of manufacture to the cache since he feels there are too many variables, such as temperature, that change through time (personal communication 2003). According to Byram (1995) variations in moisture content and past fires in the sample area will also cause variations in the hydration analysis and affect chronology estimates.

The workmanship and quality of the preforms in the cache initially appear to be crude (Crabtree 1972:57). On one biface (CD-5), the angle of force appeared to be directed almost straight against the midline with the detached flake leaving a deep termination that almost created a perverse fracture of the biface (Crabtree 1972:82). There are several step and hinge fractures evident on a majority of the preforms. Upon close inspection, the manufacturer removed, in some cases, large flakes–some crossing from one margin almost to the opposite margin–in one case completing an overshot flake (Frison and Bradley 1999:65) or *outré passé* (Crabtree 1972:80). Generally the lateral margins are asymmetrical with most of the flakes being removed in a collateral or oblique fashion. There is evidence of basal thinning. These skills would normally be attributed to an accomplished flintknapper. The overlay tool drawing (Figure 10) and tool outlines (Figure 4) of the Cedar Draw Cache indicate the expertise of the flintknapper to produce individual preforms that show little variance in dimensions. The preforms (Figure 5) are triangular to ovate with almost straight or slightly convex bases at the proximal ends.

THE DIMENSIONS

The length, width, and maximum thickness of the nine preforms show close correlations suggesting the flintknapper was experienced (Table 1). Preform CD-3 indicates that the distal end may have been broken. Upon examination of the fractured surface there is no evidence of patina, unlike the remainder of the preform, which suggests the biface surface may have been damaged subsequent or immediately prior to its removal from the cache site. Preform CD-8 exhibits a fracture of the proximal end. Based on the morphology and typology of the balance of the cache, it is estimated that the original length of this preform was similar to the rest of the cache. Artifact CD-9 appears to be an end scraper, as it exhibits a wider base that is pressure flaked only on one side (Figure 3) with a relatively concave smooth surface (Yeager, 1986:58). According to Yeager, pressure flaking usually occurs on the opposite side of the smooth un-

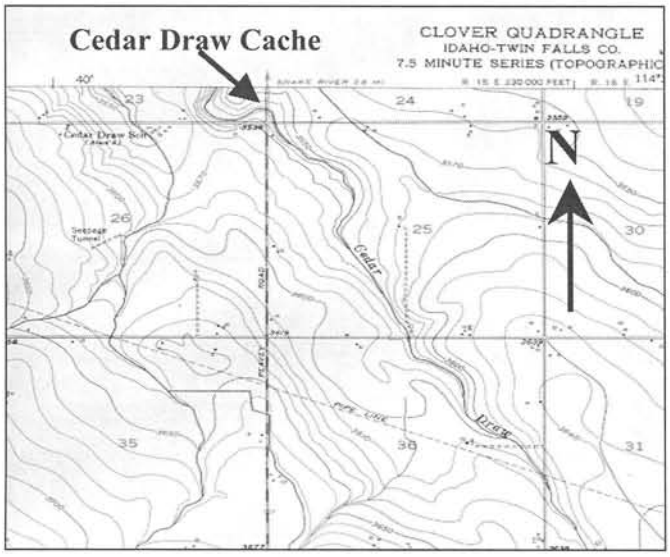

Figure 1. U.S. Department of Interior geological survey map showing location of Cedar Draw Cache. Clover Quadrangle, Idaho-Twin Falls Co. 7.5 Minute Series (Topographic). 1950.

worked surface, but this specimen only shows pressure flaking on the smooth side. It is suggested that this artifact was destined to be a preform prior to the fracture of the distal end, which may have occurred when the flintknapper attempted to remove the cortex on the proximal end that ended in a step fracture.

THE STATISTICS

Statistical calculations (Table 1) show the mean length is 4.97 cm, with the mean width at 3.39 cm, and the mean maximum thickness at 0.77 cm. The range of the length is 1.15 cm, with the width at 0.65 cm, and the maximum thickness is 0.10 cm. The standard deviation of the length is 0.37, while the standard deviation of the width is 0.21, and the standard deviation of the maximum thickness is 0.04. Finally, the variance in the length of the artifacts is 0.14, with the variance of the width at 0.04, and the maximum thickness variance is 0.00. The closer the standard deviation and the variance values are to zero the more similar the artifacts are to each other.

Figure 6 is a scattergram plot showing the length and width distribution of the cache while Figure 7 shows the distribution of the length and maximum thickness of the cache bifaces. The statistical calculations and the scattergram plot confirm that the cache artifacts are statistically very close in length and width with no significant variance in the maximum thickness. This data along with the tightly clustered hydration rims (7.1-7.2 ± 0.1) indicates that the cache was manufactured by one flintknapper in a single event who was highly skilled, even though initial cursory observations indicated otherwise, and was purposely preparing blank preforms for a specific type of projectile point (Skinner and Thatcher 2002a:4).

DISCUSSION AND COMPARISONS OF THE CEDAR DRAW CACHE TO THE ROCK CREEK CACHE

Similarities

The Cedar Draw Cache has striking similarities to another lithic cache discovered in 1986, 11.2 kilometers due east of the Cedar Draw Cache location near the confluence of Rock Creek and the Snake River (Plew and Woods 1986). The Rock Creek Cache consisted of thirty-two ignimbrite bifaces excavated *in situ* during a hydroelectric survey (Table 2). The Rock Creek Cache and the Cedar Draw Cache were both manufactured from ignimbrite, a local variant of obsidian, by a flake core technology. Both caches were discovered near a year-around water source. The Rock Creek Cache and the Cedar Draw Cache bifaces are homogeneous and

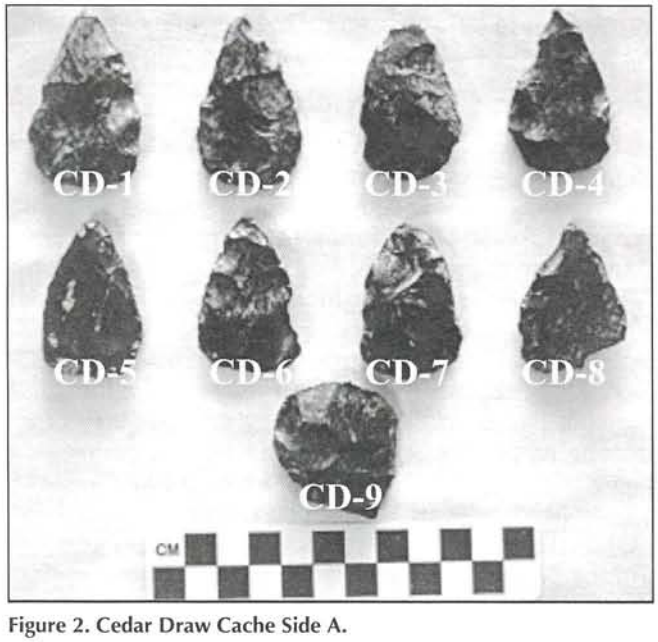

Figure 2. Cedar Draw Cache Side A.

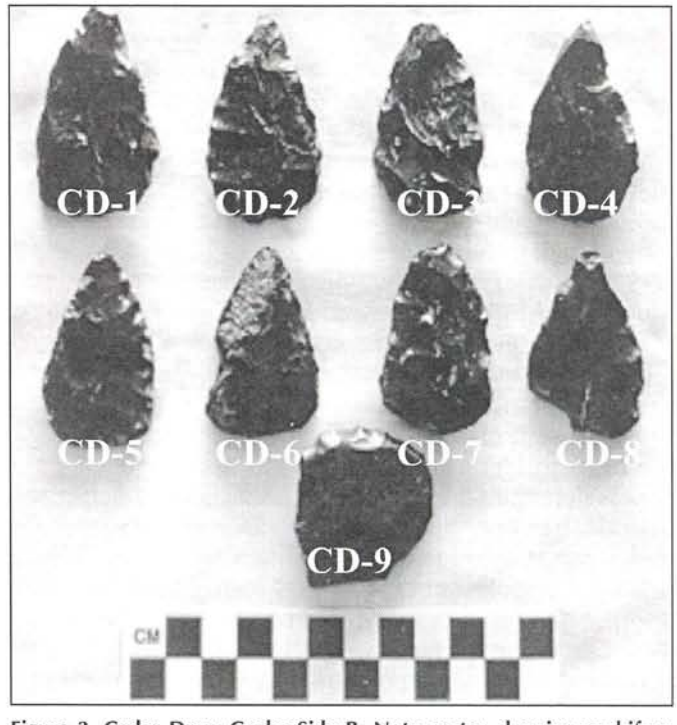

Figure 3. Cedar Draw Cache Side B. Note cortex showing on biface CD-6.

compare very closely with each other in length, width, and maximum thickness (Figures 8, 9, 10) indicating they may be preforms for the same or similar type of projectile–possibly an Elko point series (Plew and Woods 1986:22). Since Brown's Bench ignimbrite is a non-exotic material and is obtainable from local quarries in abundance, it appears that these two caches were intended to be utilitarian caches to be retrieved for a supply of new projectile points (Hughes 1994:371; Jackson and Ericson 1994:407). Galm (1994:282) said, "In the vast majority of prehistoric contexts obsidian [ignimbrite] occurs as utilitarian implements, particularly projectile points, bifaces, and waste flakes." Both caches were located in proximity to each other (11.2 km), with the Cedar Draw Cache lying almost due west of the Rock Creek Cache (Figure 11). It is presently unknown if the proximity between the caches is significant.

Differences

The Rock Creek Cache bifaces were manufactured with greater care than the Cedar Draw Cache bifaces and included three mahogany colored bifaces that may indicate this cache had greater value to the flintknapper than the Cedar Draw Cache. The Rock Creek Cache, based on one source affinity test, indicated it was made from material located at the Hudson Ridge ignimbrite quarry near Brown's Bench (Plew and Woods 1986:22). Dr. Bill Bonnichsen, a geologist, suspects that the Hudson Ridge source may have a similar trace element signature as the other Brown's Bench ignimbrite sources (personal communication 2005). During the summer months of 2005, several ignimbrite samples were gathered from Hudson Ridge, Monument Peak, Indian Springs Road, Cassias Ridge View, McMullen Basin, Shoshone Creek, and an unnamed location south of Jackpot, Nevada were tested at the Northwest Obsidian Studies Lab. As a result of these tests Skinner says, "this is a single source [Brown's Bench] that is quite geochemically-variable and that's found over a large geographic area" (personal communication 2006). The same specimen sent by Plew and Woods and conducted by MOHLAB, a testing facility at State College, Pennsylvania, on April 11, 1984, also assigned a hydration rim to the biface of 2.94m ± 0.09m with a calendar date of 872 BC ± 181 years (Michels, 1984). Ten random bifaces from the Rock Creek Cache, excluding the above sample, were sent to Northwest Obsidian Studies Laboratory in 2002 for X-ray fluorescence analysis and obsidian hydration measurement (Skinner and Thatcher 2002b). Nine bifaces including two mahogany (red) colored bifaces were sourced to the same ignimbrite source (Brown's Bench) as the Cedar Draw Cache. A third ma-

TABLE 1. CEDAR DRAW CACHE

Specimen Number	Length (cm)	Width (cm)	Maximum Thickness (cm)
CD-1	5.60	3.70	0.80
CD-2	5.40	3.40	0.70
CD-3	5.00	3.25	0.80
CD-4	5.30	3.30	0.75
CD-5	4.80	3.15	0.75
CD-6	4.80	3.25	0.80
CD-7	4.80	3.25	0.80
CD-8	4.55	3.40	0.70
CD-9	4.45	3.80	0.80
Maximum	**5.60**	**3.80**	**0.80**
Mean	**4.97**	**3.39**	**0.77**
Median	**4.80**	**3.30**	**0.80**
Mode	**4.80**	**3.25**	**0.80**
Range	**1.15**	**0.65**	**0.10**
Standard Deviation	**0.37**	**0.21**	**0.04**
Variance	**0.14**	**0.04**	**0.00**

Table 1. Shows measurements and calculations of the Cedar Draw Cache bifaces.

TABLE 2. ROCK CREEK CACHE

Specimen Number	Length (cm)	Width (cm)	Maximum Thickness (cm)
10-TF-677-1	5.30	3.00	0.70
10-TF-677-2	6.20	3.80	0.70
10-TF-677-3	4.70	3.40	0.70
10-TF-677-4	6.00	3.70	0.80
10-TF-677-5	5.30	3.20	0.80
10-TF-677-6	6.10	3.50	0.60
10-TF-677-7	5.00	3.60	0.70
10-TF-677-8	6.00	3.40	0.80
10-TF-677-9	5.80	3.70	0.80
10-TF-677-10	5.80	3.70	0.80
10-TF-677-11	5.90	3.20	0.90
10-TF-677-12	5.40	3.70	0.80
10-TF-677-13	5.10	3.40	0.70
10-TF-677-14	5.90	3.70	0.90
10-TF-677-15	5.00	3.80	0.70
10-TF-677-16	5.00	3.40	0.80
10-TF-677-17	5.10	3.20	0.70
10-TF-677-18	5.80	3.50	0.90
10-TF-677-19	4.70	3.20	0.80
10-TF-677-20	5.20	3.80	0.90
10-TF-677-21	5.00	3.40	0.70
10-TF-677-22	5.40	3.50	0.70
10-TF-677-23	5.10	3.50	0.70
10-TF-677-24	6.10	3.80	0.70
10-TF-677-25	6.00	3.50	0.80
10-TF-677-26	5.00	3.10	0.80
10-TF-677-27	4.70	3.50	0.80
10-TF-677-28	4.70	3.40	0.70
10-TF-677-29	5.20	3.00	0.80
10-TF-677-30	6.00	3.50	0.80
10-TF-677-31	6.00	3.70	0.60
10-TF-677-32	6.00	3.60	0.70
Maximum	**6.20**	**3.80**	**0.90**
Minimum	**4.70**	**3.00**	**0.60**
Mean	**5.45**	**3.48**	**0.76**
Median	**5.35**	**3.50**	**0.80**
Mode	**6.00**	**3.50**	**0.70**
Range	**1.50**	**0.80**	**0.30**
Standard Deviation	**0.49**	**0.23**	**0.08**
Variance	**0.24**	**0.05**	**0.01**

Table 2 shows measurements and calculations of the Rock Creek Cache bifaces.

hogany biface could not be sourced but according to Skinner, "There's nothing in my source reference database that piece matches although there are a couple of northern Nevada artifacts (from an unknown source) that are suspiciously similar in trace element composition" (personal communication 2002). The hydration rim widths for the Rock Creek Cache range from 7.0-8.9 microns. This would indicate the cache was not produced in a single episode, unlike the Cedar Draw Cache. According to Skinner this may indicate that the Rock Creek Cache bifaces were manufactured over a longer period of time (personal communication). The one sample from the 1984 MOHLAB report showed a hydration rim width of 2.9 microns, which is much lower than the

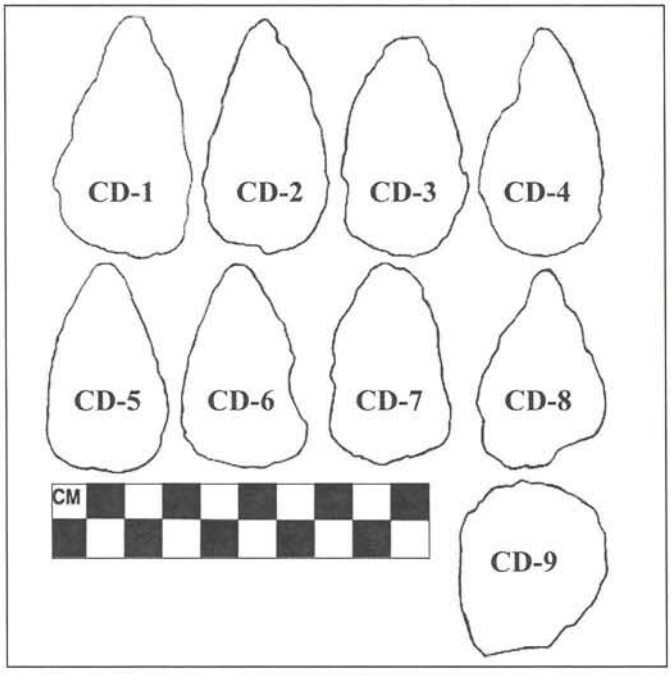

Figure 4. Tool outlines of Cedar Draw Cache.

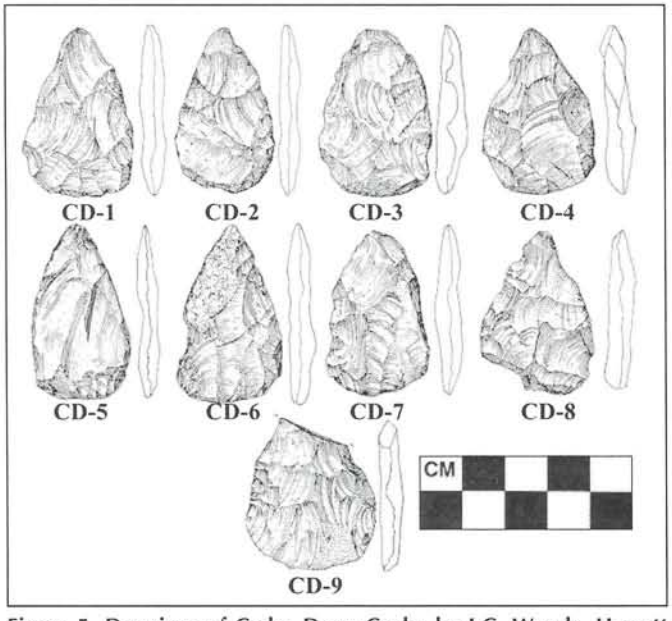

Figure 5. Drawings of Cedar Draw Cache by J.C. Woods, Herrett Center for the Arts and Sciences, Twin Falls, Idaho.

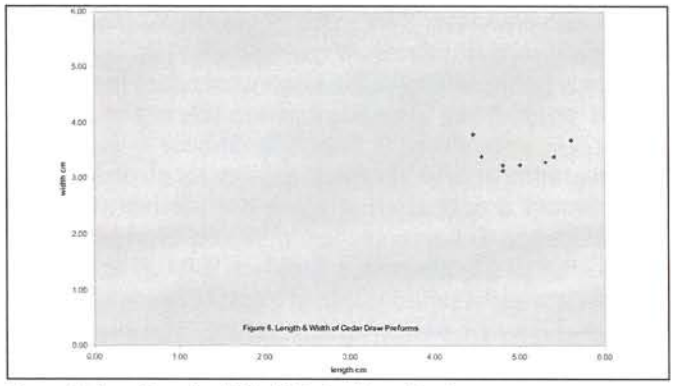

Figure 6. Length and width of Cedar Draw Preforms.

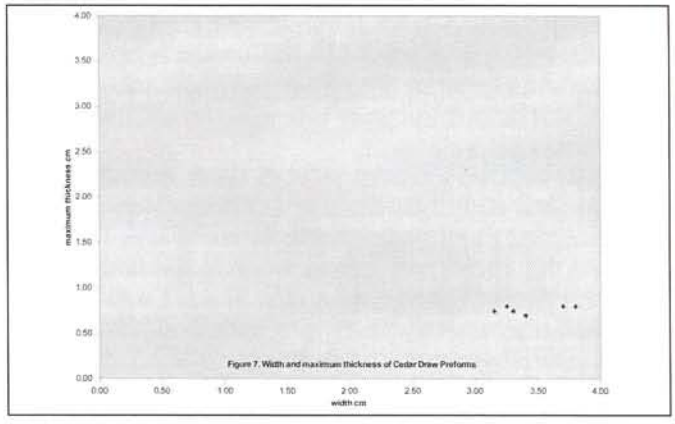

Figure 7. Width and maximum thickness of Cedar Draw Preforms.

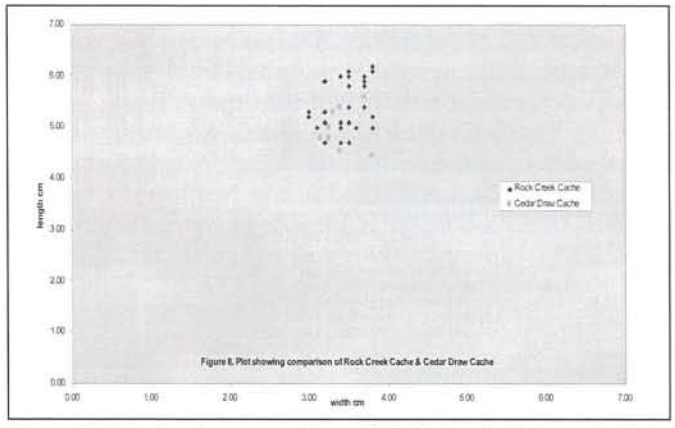

Figure 8. Plot showing comparison of Rock Creek Cache and Cedar Draw Cache.

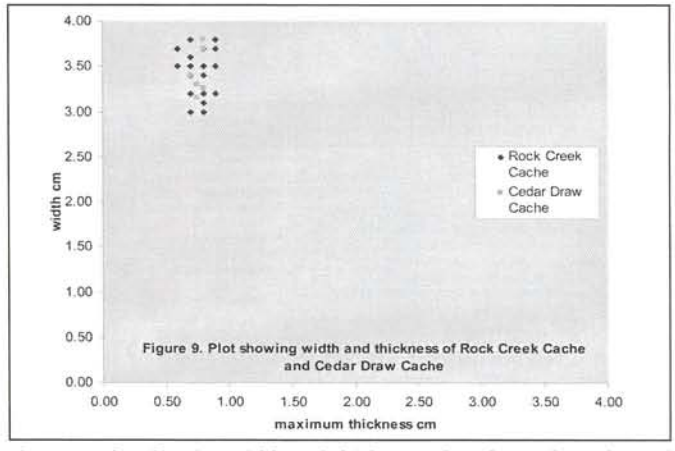

Figure 9. Plot showing width and thickness of Rock Creek Cache and Cedar Draw Cache.

other ten samples. There is no explanation or evidence as to why this biface showed such a wide variance from the more recent samples.

CONCLUSIONS

Based upon the previous analysis, except for possible date of manufacture, it appears that the Cedar Draw and the Rock Creek Caches are morphologically and typologically the same. It is probable that as additional Rock Creek bifaces were manufactured over time they were added directly to the cache. An overhead photograph of the Rock Creek Cache made during the excavation could possibly be interpreted as two separate placements (Figure 12). Unfortunately, measurements and identifications of specimens in the separate deposits were not performed at the time of excavation. Rim hydration analysis of the two separate concentrations of bifaces may have resolved this dilemma. It is also possible that originally the bifaces were placed in one concentrated pile that sometime in the past fell and scattered the remaining bifaces into the other less concentrated array. The hydration rim measurements for the Rock Creek Cache do overlap the Cedar Cache measurements indicating that a portion of the bifaces may have been manufactured during the same time period as the Cedar Draw Cache. The tool drawing comparisons and the dimension similarities supports this temporal premise. These correlations may also indicate that the bifaces from both caches were destined for similar projectile points. Further excavation at both cache sites should be considered to determine if other artifacts exist below the level where they were discovered. Using a new technique called Obsidian Diffusion Dating by Secondary Ionization Mass Spectrometry (ODDSIMS) when it becomes reliable and cost efficient may help solve the mystery of age differences between these two caches and other obsidian artifacts (University of Tennessee 2003 or U.S. Department of Energy 1995). According to Wiseman et al. (1994:65), "A major problem with caches is that they are frequently difficult or impossible to date and can rarely be assigned to specific cultures and periods." However, in some cases, caches will reveal to us their intended use and may provide us a chronological window into a cultural continuum. As hydration techniques are enhanced better methods of dating obsidian (ignimbrite) artifacts will eventually emerge. Lithic caches should be analyzed in greater detail in the future, since they provide evidence of early exploitation by humans of lithic resources that may be attributed and traced to specific sources. More exploration is needed in sourcing the locations of the ancient quarries that provided cultural groups with the necessary lithic material to manufacture their tools.

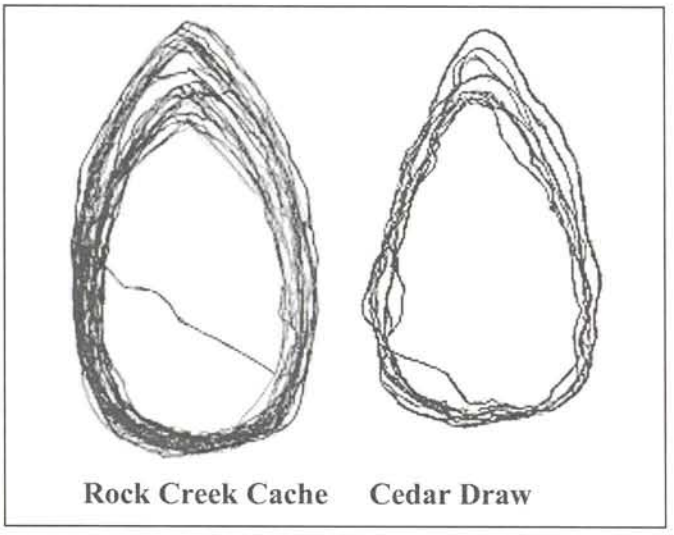

Figure 10. Overlay tool drawing of Rock Creek and Cedar Draw Caches.

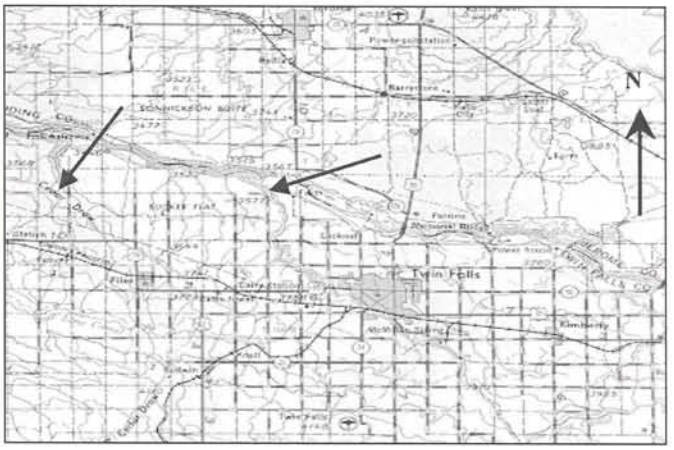

Figure 11. U.S. Department of Interior Geological Survey, Twin Falls, Idaho. Quadrangle showing location of Rock Creek and Cedar Draw Caches. 1962 revision.

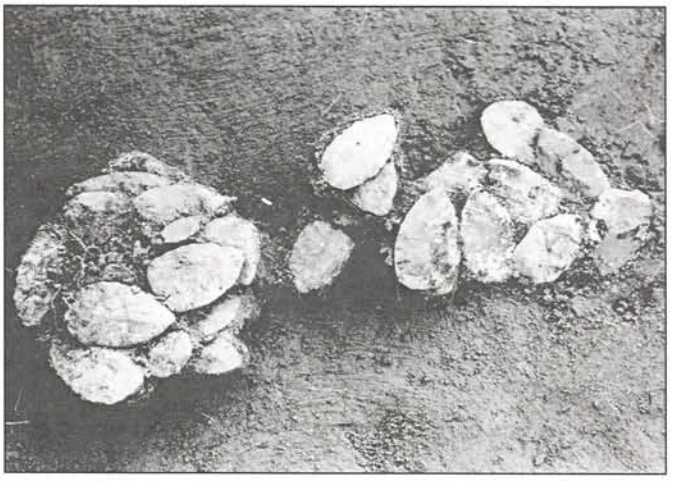

Figure 12. Rock Creek Cache in situ (Photograph courtesy of J.C. Woods, Herrett Center for the Arts & Sciences, Twin Falls, Idaho).

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SHORT CONTRIBUTIONS

ANALYSIS OF POTTERY VESSEL FROM THE CELEBRATION PARK AREA, SOUTHWEST IDAHO

by Susan Hawkins

INTRODUCTION

An incomplete pottery vessel discovered by a private party near Melba, Idaho was given to the Celebration Park Interpretive Center and subsequently submitted to Boise State University's Anthropology Department for analysis. The vessel came to the university in three main sections and two smaller body sherds. Preliminary examination determined it to be within the range of grey-brown wares typical of the Great Basin. The exact provenience of the vessel is unknown, but it is believed that the pieces were found among the basalt boulders on the northern upper basalt terrace bordering Celebration Park some three miles south of Melba, Idaho (Fig.1). This note describes the vessel and compares it with pottery from Southwest Idaho and Oregon.

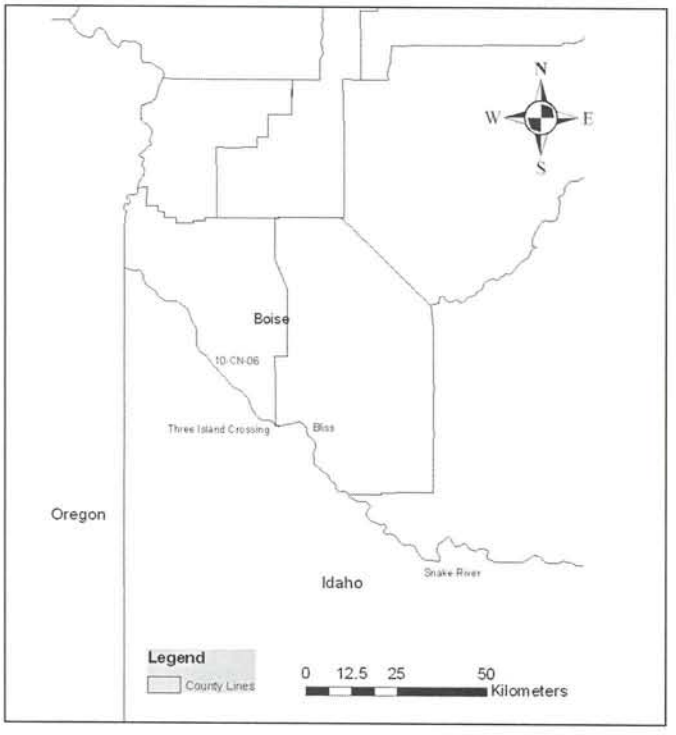

Figure 1. Map

METHODS

The three main sections and the two small sherds of the vessel were measured and weighed using Kanon calipers and an Ottaus Scout II scale model SC4010. Surface and core color were recorded with a Munsell Soil color chart. Temper and plant fibers within the matrix were viewed through an Olympus G20x SZ series microscope. All three sections were re-assembled along with the two separate smaller body sherds, and measurements were taken to determine the width of the rim and the overall form and height of the vessel.

ARTIFACT DESCRIPTION

Of the three main sections, two make up the rim and part of the midsection, and the third section is the base of the vessel. Two separate smaller body sherds were also included. Once the sections were re-assembled the rim measured 15.5 cm across the mouth with an overall height of the vessel measuring 20.9 cm. The rim is thin with a slightly outward flaring appearance and ranges between .80-.82 cm. The vessel thickens at the midsection (.91 cm) and toward the bottom (1.14 cm). The base is comprised of 8 sherds forming a 9.64 cm round 1.60 cm thick flat base. There are four holes drilled along the top rim, two each directly opposite each other. The surface of the vessel is roughly smoothed and undulating with slight striations both inside and out that appears to come from plant fibers, possibly grass that was pressed onto the surface during manufacture. The only decoration on the vessel is 6-7 slight fingernail incisions located on one rim sherd 3-4 mm under the inside lip. The temper consists of basalt, quartz sand and mica. The vessel sherds exhibit distinct color differences: some sherds are completely black while others are light gray-brown. The bottom of the base has a slight reddish-brown color. This description is based on a key created by Wells (2004), Rudy's (1953) general type description, and Plew and Bennick's "Prehistoric Pottery of Southwestern Idaho: A Report on the Southwest Idaho Ceramic Project" (1990). The vessel displays the com-

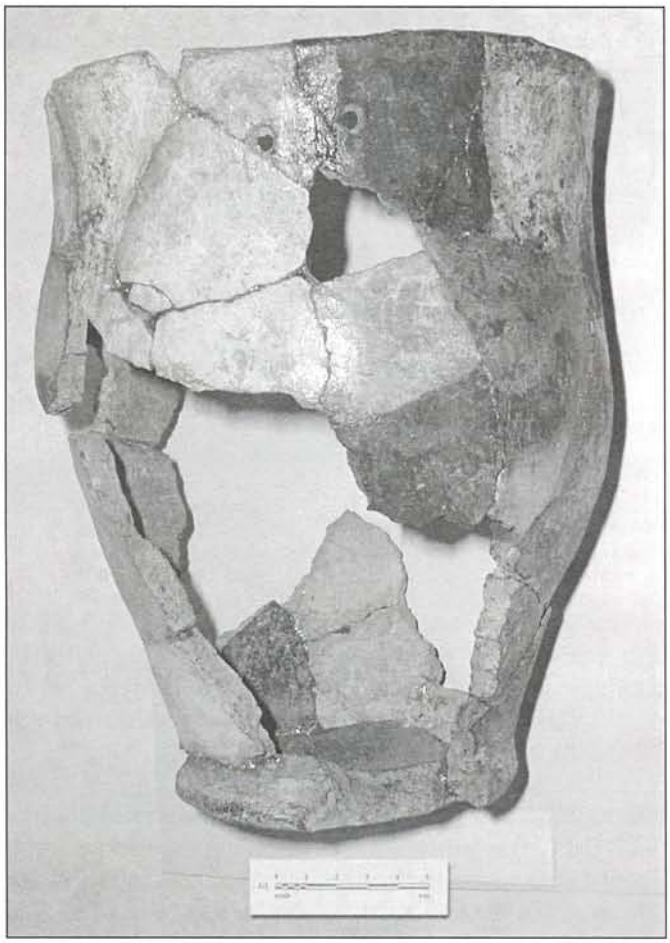

Figure 2. Celebration Vessel

mon flowerpot form consistent with grey-brown wares of the Great Basin (Fig.2).

Construction: Coiled and molded.

Firing: Low oxidizing atmosphere.

Core Color: Light to dark grey and black. Reddish brown on the bottom.

Temper: Crushed quartz sand, mica, basalt, medium coarse fragments to fine grains.

Core Texture: Coarse and grainy with sand and basalt in the medium grain size.

Surface Finish: Outside undulating surface is roughly smooth and not polished, with some light, random, striation marks; origins of striations are unknown, possibly from grass fibers. The inside undulating surface has a course texture, with some light, random, striation marks; origins of striations are unknown, possibly from grass fibers.

Surface Color: Shades range from very light grey grading to brown to black, with some reddish brown on the bottom.

Shapes: Flat-bottom, flowerpot design.

Rims: Straight along the top with a slightly flaring rim. Top rim thickness is .80-.82 cm and across the mouth is 15.5 cm wide.

Wall Thickness: Top rim to midsection range measures .80 cm-.91 cm. Midsection to bottom range measures .91 cm-1.14 cm.

Decorative Technique: None, other than 6-7 slight fingernail incisions along the rim on one sherd approximately 1 mm apart and 2-3 mm in length in a horizontal slant.

Base Thickness: Center inside base 1.60 cm

Weight: Each of the three sections was weighed independently. The bottom section is 359 g; two top sections are 358 g and 181 g. Of two separate shards, one weighed 14 g and another 8 g.

TABLE 1. METRICAL/DESCRIPTIVE AND TYPOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF THE VESSEL

Sherd	A1TS	A2TS	A3B	A4IS	A5IS
Length cm	21.59	26.67	9.82	7.71	8.24
Width cm	11.43	16.51	9.64	1.50	2.42
Thickness cm	.82	.80	1.60	.74	.72
Weight g	358	181	359	14	8
Vessel Form	F	F	F	U	U
Base	UB	UB	FB	UB	UB
Rim/Lip	SF/TS	SF/TS	UF	UF	UF
Core	DG	DG	DG	DG	DG
Surface	LG/BL	LG/BL	LG/RB	LG	LG
Temper	BQS	BQS	BQS	BQS	BQS

ANALYSIS KEY

Artifact 1 Top Section = A1TS
Artifact 2 Top Section = A2TS
Artifact 3 Base = A3B
Artifact 4 and 5 Individual Sherds = A4IS & A5IS

Vessel Form	Flowerpot = F
	Unknown Form = U
Base	Flat Base = FB
	Unknown Base = UB
Rim/Lip Form	Slightly Flaring Rim = SF
	T-Shaped Lip = TS
	Unknown Form = UF
Surface & Core	Light Grey = LG
	Dark Grey = DG
	Black = BL
	Reddish Brown = RB
Temper	Basalt, Quartz Sand = BQS

SUMMARY

Although discovered by a private party among the basalt boulders surrounding Celebration Park, individual sherds and overall vessel form of the ceramic pot described in this note exhibit the typical flowerpot shape with dull grey-brown undecorated surface and obliterated coils traditionally identified as Shoshoni Ware.

In general, Shoshoni Ware is commonly described as thick-walled pottery containing coarse inclusions, non-decorative surfaces, and coiled construction smoothed by scraping. Plew and Bennick, (1988) whose analysis is the most complete for pottery collections in SW Idaho, suggest that the "most important variables for describing southwest Idaho ceramics are rim, base, vessel form and

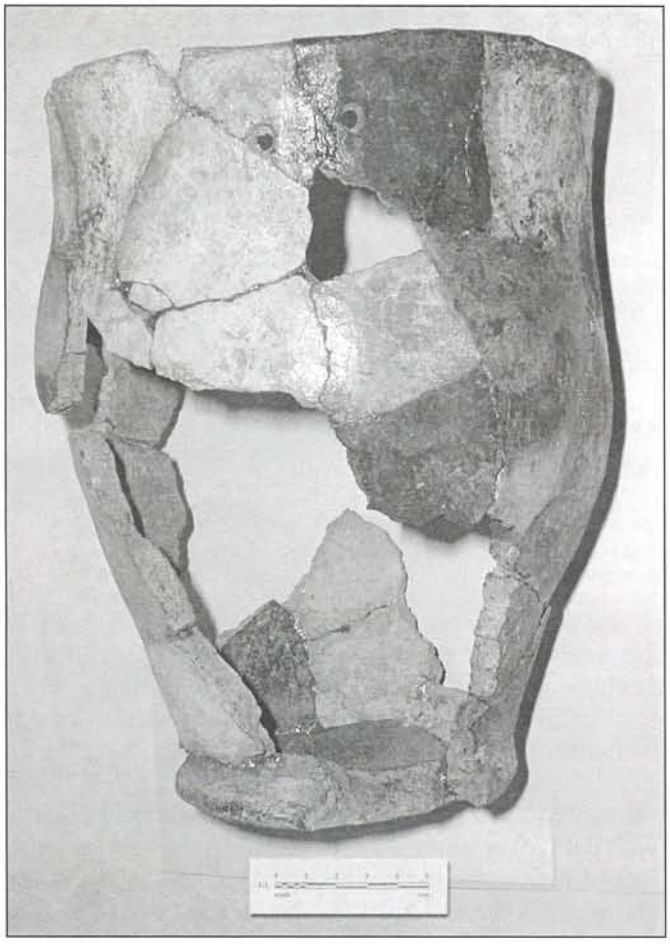

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Figure 3. Vessel Base

surface treatment." The three main sections of the Celebration vessel assembled together in the lab resembled the typical flowerpot design with an overall height of 20.9 cm. The small 9.64 cm base (Fig. 3), steep vertical sides, and 15.5cm rim suggested that the base might not support the wide mouth. But as noted by Plew and Bennick (1990), there is "a negative correlation between base and vessel size with flowerpot variety" and "very small constricted bases may support very large vessels." When the three sections of the Celebration vessel were assembled in the lab it was noted that the thick base would have supported the wide rim sections. The flat bottom and slightly outward flaring rim of the vessel fits within Plew and Bennicks (1988), description of the typical flowerpot variety known as Shoshoni Ware.

Surface treatment of the vessel shows 6-7 slight fingernail incisions on one rim sherd along the inside lip. These incisions are horizontally spaced approximately 1 mm apart and 2-3 mm in length. No other decoration was found on the vessel. There are a total of four drill holes along the top rim, two each directly opposite each other. It has been suggested by Butler (1979) that these drill holes kept the rim from cracking or that they were mending holes Tuohy (1963). The vessel exhibits some irregular exterior surface striations that resemble plant fibers. Some plant fibers were also found while examining the temper but not enough to be considered part of the temper. This suggests that both exterior striations and fibers found within the clay's matrix may have occurred naturally during manufacturing. Color differences in the sherds ranges from light grey to brown and black and may reflect reduced atmosphere firing. Many explanations for variance in color are possible and without having found the vessel *in situ* it would be difficult to explain any formation processes that had occurred over time and were mapped onto the vessel from its original context; therefore, we can only speculate about color variations at this point. However, the vessel's overall grey-brown color fits within the typology of Shoshoni Ware.

One of the traditional criteria of type description is temper. The Celebration Park vessel contains basalt which is common in the Park and in Idaho. However, some of the largest pottery assemblages located at Three Island Crossing, Clover Creek and Bliss, Idaho (Fig.1) along the Snake River do not contain basalt as a tempering agent. According to Plew and Bennick (1988), only 1% of the 1,822 pottery sherds examined from SW Idaho contained basalt. Moreover, Wells' (2004) analysis of a ceramic vessel from SE Oregon was described as typical Shoshoni Ware but again did not contain basalt in the temper. As Butler (1983) notes, "Temper usually reflects the mineralogy of the region;" therefore, temper may not be particularly useful when trying to identify particular pottery types.

While large domestic assemblages have been found between Glenns Ferry and Bliss, Idaho some 69 miles east of Celebration Park, the range of forms and distribution of Shoshoni Ware is incomplete. Though pottery is noted as rare in Oregon, some smaller assemblages identified along the southeastern Oregon border include the Lost Dune Site 35-HA-792 on the east side of Blitzen Valley, Harney County, Oregon (Thomas 1982). With respect to distribution, Plew and Bennick's (1988) analysis of Southwest Idaho ceramics indicates that "twenty-one or 59% of the pottery-producing sites are located within riverine environments between 2,500 and 3,400 feet." The Celebration Park vessel was discovered within a riverine setting with a mean elevation about 2,300 feet. Geographical distribution of domestic assemblages within riverine settings of Southwest Idaho points to ethnographic patterns as well as to functional use of the pottery itself. Sherds found within one-half mile of Celebration Park at adjacent archaeological sites 10-CN-1, 10-CN-5 and 10-CN-6 exhibit similar thick-walled, non-decorated, expediently produced pottery most likely used seasonally. Through evaluation of diagnostic artifacts, these excavated sites have come to be considered fall to early spring campsites of a Late Archaic age: "The distribution of sites along the Snake and its tributaries may associate with the use of pottery in the winter and spring for maximizing the yield of usable protein from stored and fresh meat and bones" (Butler 1987: 11). Plew and Bennick (1988), hypothesize that "the pottery was used primarily for boiling and the geographic distribution represents its variable seasonal use."

The Celebration Park vessel fits into the general range of Intermountain Grey-Brown Ware commonly known as Shoshoni Ware. This note provides an additional ex-

ample of this pottery type and extends knowledge of its distribution in Southwest Idaho.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The author would like to thank Celebration Park for allowing Boise State University to conduct analysis on the ceramic vessel. I would especially like to thank Dr. Mark Plew for his guidance and contributions during the process of writing this note and for conversations that clarified my thinking on this and other matters. I would also like to thank Chris Willson for his first-rate GIS map making, Tedd Jacobs for his spirited encouragement in the early stage of development and Dan Hawkins for his neverending support. The responsibility for the accuracy of this paper rests with the author.

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BOOK REVIEW

BURIAL TERMINOLOGY

By Roderick Sprague. Alta Mira Press, Lantham, Maryland, 2005. 274 pp., softcover, no price given, acknowledgements, illustrations, references, subject index.

Reviewed by Mark G. Plew
Boise State University

Given worldwide variation in burial practices and use of burial nomenclature it is remarkable that only now a major work appears that will serve for many years as the "handbook" of terminology relating to burial remains, features and grave goods. Appropriately, Roderick Sprague who has spent the better part of a career studying burial practices has brought together in a single volume an exhaustive international overview of burial classification and terminology.

The organization of this volume is relatively simple and consists of but four chapters: Introduction, Historical Background, Field Guide and Discussion of Classification. Its introduction demonstrates that confusion over the use of burial terms has a lengthy history extending into the present and details problems relating to the development of a burial terminology. The second chapter provides an historical background to early attempts at developing burial terminology. For those not familiar with mortuary archaeology this chapter provides a much needed overview of the early and later literature pertaining to burial nomenclature.

Chapter 3, the Field Guide, provides the most comprehensive in field "check list" of burial related observations available as well as a complete set of illustrations documenting the full range of burial positions. Chapter 4, Discussion of the Classification, includes the book's most detailed and impressive contribution. Constituting approximately two-thirds of the text the final chapter includes discussion of form of disposal, body preparation, individuality, articulation, position, deposition, orientation, alignment and facing, grave goods or inclusions, disposal containers, features, disposal areas, demography, excavation and data recording.

Terms proposed in the chapter are placed in italics in their first use or in terms of emphasis and reflect the author's careful evaluation of terms and descriptors used by other writers. In each sub-section Sprague details the ways in which other writers have made use of variable terms and what he views as problems with these previous classifications. He then proceeds to refine terms or to generate new terms that resolve earlier confusions. For example, he notes that with respect to disposal of the dead, archaeologists have tended to assume a duality between inhumation and cremation. Sprague notes that any system describing disposal of the dead should use the terms simple disposal and compound disposal in a manner that allows for the description of a particular type of disposal or accounts for instances in which multiple processes are involved. This unique categorical treatment of such a vast archaeological literature is truly impressive.

Though remarkably detailed in its discussions, the book contains a limited number of illustrations. This is not a criticism and most readers will find that the level of illustration is appropriate to the intent of the author. *Burial Terminology* is without question the definitive work on the use of terminology relating to burials, burial features and associated grave goods. As such it will find its way onto the shelves of archaeologists and libraries worldwide. The breadth and detail of its discussions will ensure that the book attains the "classic" status of such works as *Ceramics for the Archaeologist.*

BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Social Sciences
and Public Affairs
1910 University Drive
Boise, Idaho 83725-1950
028L101010