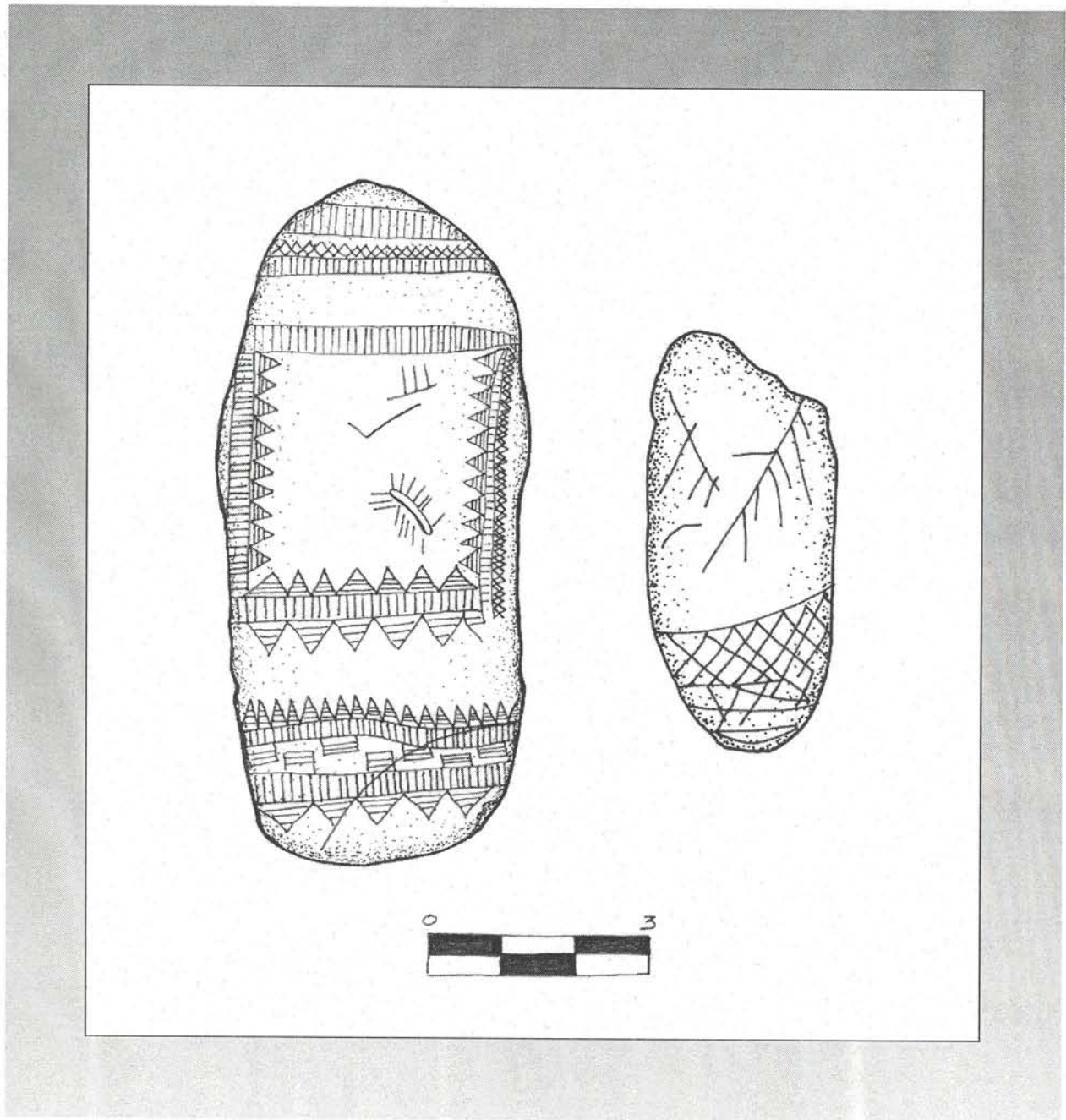


Idaho ARCHAEOLOGIST

ISSN 0893-2271



Idaho ARCHAEOLOGIST

Editor, Mark G. Plew
Editorial Assistant, Chris Willson

EDITORIAL ADVISORY BOARD

J. Perry Silver, Jr. and Audrey Hedley, Idaho Archaeological Society, Glenda King, Idaho State Historical Society, Roderick Sprague, University of Idaho, and E. S. Lohse, Idaho State University.

The *IDAHO ARCHAEOLOGIST* is published semi-annually by the Idaho Archaeological Society in cooperation with the College of Social Science and Public Affairs, Boise State University. The *IDAHO ARCHAEOLOGIST* is the journal of the Idaho Archaeological Society, a non-profit association of professional and amateur archaeologists, organized under the laws of the State of Idaho. Subscriptions are \$12.00 per year and may be obtained by writing the *IDAHO ARCHAEOLOGIST*, Department of Anthropology, Boise State University, 1910 University Drive, Boise, Idaho 83725-1950.

NOTICE TO AUTHORS: Manuscripts should conform to the style sheet for *American Antiquity*. Manuscripts should be typed double-spaced, with 1 1/2 inch margins, and submitted, if possible, on 3.5 inch diskette written in Microsoft Word. A single hard copy should also be submitted. The *IDAHO ARCHAEOLOGIST* publishes peer reviewed articles and shorter contributions concerning the archaeology of Idaho and those areas of adjacent states and provinces including the Columbia drainage and the Great Basin. Technical and theoretical papers having a wider audience will be considered. Manuscripts should be addressed to:

Mark G. Plew, Editor
IDAHO ARCHAEOLOGIST
Department of Anthropology
Boise State University
1910 University Drive
Boise, Idaho 83725-1950

© 2004 Idaho Archaeological Society

Cover Photo: Incised stones at Pend Orielle Lake in Northern Idaho.

CONTENTS

ARTICLES AND REPORTS _____

- Incised Stones from the Pend Orielle River
in Northern Idaho..... 23**
Jan Snedden Kee

SHORT CONTRIBUTIONS _____

- Book Review: *In Search of Chaco: New Approaches
to an Archaeological Enigma* 31**
Reviewed by Pei-Lin Yu

ARTICLES AND REPORTS

INCISED STONES FROM THE PEND OREILLE RIVER IN NORTHERN IDAHO

Jan Snedden Kee

INTRODUCTION

Incised stones are various types of rocks, portable in size, that have been incised to produce lines, geometric patterns, or linear designs. They are a relatively uncommon artifact type reported in Idaho. However, it appears that there is a unique concentration of them along a section of the Pend Oreille River in northern Idaho. The nine incised stones described here were all found along the shoreline between the small communities of Dover and Laclede. A collection of 12 incised stones was previously documented from the same general area (Plew and Cupan 1981). Numerous Native American artifacts have been recovered from various locations around Pend Oreille Lake and River, however, so far only this locale has yielded incised stones.

The scarcity of information on incised stones in Idaho may be attributed to several factors. Foremost, incised stones are not easily recognizable. Typically, shallow lines have been made on relatively unaltered, naturally occurring stones which makes them hard to differentiate from the background of assorted natural rocks. The incising itself can be extremely difficult to see with the naked eye. In at least two examples from this assemblage, KD104 and KD604, the designs are nearly imperceptible without magnification and excellent lighting. Furthermore, because of their relative obscurity as an artifact type, they are often given minimal documentation or description in reports. Information is scattered in various sources making it problematic to gain an accurate picture about their distribution or frequency in Idaho.

As an artifact type, incised stones are widespread across North America. Santini notes that they have been referred to by a bewildering array of names: incised pebbles, moveable pictographs, scratched pebbles, engraved pebbles, scratched stones, scratched rock, incised slate, engraved slate, stone tablets, etched stone, petroglyph slabs, and incised stones (Santini 1974). Some early descriptions and informal accounts have referred to them as portable petroglyphs, incised tablets, incised cobbles, and etched panels. For convenience and consistency, they are referred to here as incised stones.

SETTING

Lake Pend Oreille is located in the Idaho Panhandle, about 60 miles south of the Canadian border (Fig. 1). Sandpoint, the principle city, is located at the north end of the 43-mile long lake. Highway 2 runs west from Sandpoint, roughly parallel to the Pend Oreille River. The small town of Dover is about three miles west of Sandpoint via Highway 2. The area around Dover informally marks the start of the Pend Oreille River outlet from Pend Oreille Lake. Approximately nine miles further down river from Dover is Laclede, an unincorporated community. Another eight miles past Laclede on Highway 2 lies the town of Priest River. The total distance from Dover, through Laclede, to Priest River is approximately 17 miles. All of the incised stone artifacts documented here, as well as all of those in the Cupan collection (Plew and Cupan 1981), were found along this stretch of the Pend Oreille River.

Numerous waterways and rugged, heavily forested mountains characterize the northern Idaho area. The abundant lakes and craggy mountain terrain are evidence of the last glaciation that ended approximately 10,000 years ago. The modern water level of Lake Pend Oreille, hence the river, is controlled by Albeni Falls Dam and fluctuates approximately 3-4 meters seasonally. Continuing erosion and wave action have exposed a variety of Native American artifacts in numerous places along the shorelines of Pend Oreille Lake and River (Miss and Hudson 1987).

METHODS

Over a period of several years, Sally Cupan, an amateur collector, found 12 incised stones along the Pend Oreille River. This is the most extensive collection known for Idaho and was reported by Plew and Cupan (1981).

Suspecting that there may be more, the author personally contacted numerous long-time artifact collectors in the area and published a notice in *The Sandpoint Daily Bee* newspaper seeking information on possible incised stones. Nine specimens were located. While the exact location for each find was not always recalled, the four informants did reference all of them to landmarks in the

vicinity of Dover and Laclede: the old Dover lumber mill site, Ramses Island, Campbell Point, Riley Creek, and the old Laclede ferry-landing site. Native American campsites were located near Laclede, as well as the opposite side of the river, into historic times. Amateurs have collected an array of artifacts here and at numerous locations around Pend Oreille Lake and River for many years (Miss and Hudson 1987). All of the twelve incised stones from the Cupan collection as well as the nine reported here were found along the same segment of the river between Dover and Priest River. Nineteen of these 21 total specimens were concentrated between Dover and Laclede, a distance of about 9 miles. Curiously, no incised stones from other sites around the river or lake have been located.

PREVIOUS RESEARCH

Other than the Cupan collection (Plew and Cupan 1981), a search of the literature identified only two other incised stones from the north-central portion of Idaho. Roderick Sprague described one found along the shore of Lake Coeur d' Alene (Personal communication). It was brought to the University of Idaho's Laboratory of Anthropology where he made a rubbing of it. This artifact featured five lines crossing through a center point to form a "star" or "flower" design, and two very simple stick-like figures. Sappington reported a specimen found at the Ahsahka Sportsmen's Access site along the Clearwater River (Sappington 1990). This is the only specimen for which there is a reasonably secure date. The house floor from which it was excavated was radiocarbon-dated ca. 2000 years BP.

In addition to reports from north-central Idaho there are also sporadic reports from southern Idaho. Plew has reported two from southwestern Idaho (1977) and one found in Gooding County near Bliss (1981). Huntley and Nance (1979) described three "incised cobbles," two of which were from Owyhee and Elmore Counties in southern Idaho. The third one they described was from nearby Malheur County, Oregon, which borders Owyhee County. Of these reported incised stone artifacts only the

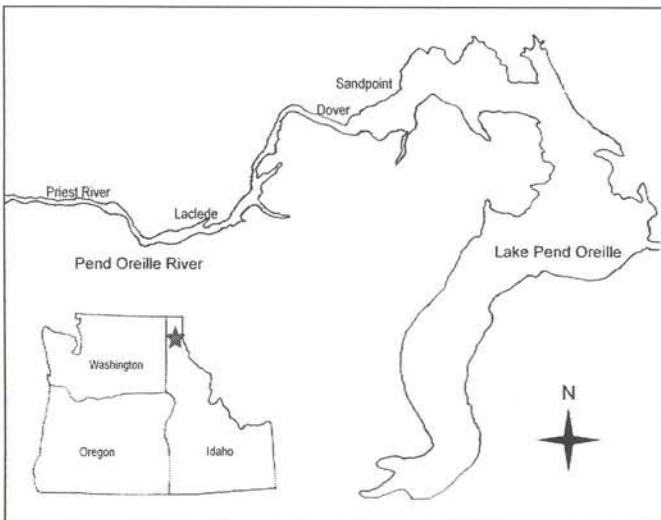


Figure 1. Incised Stones Vicinity Map.

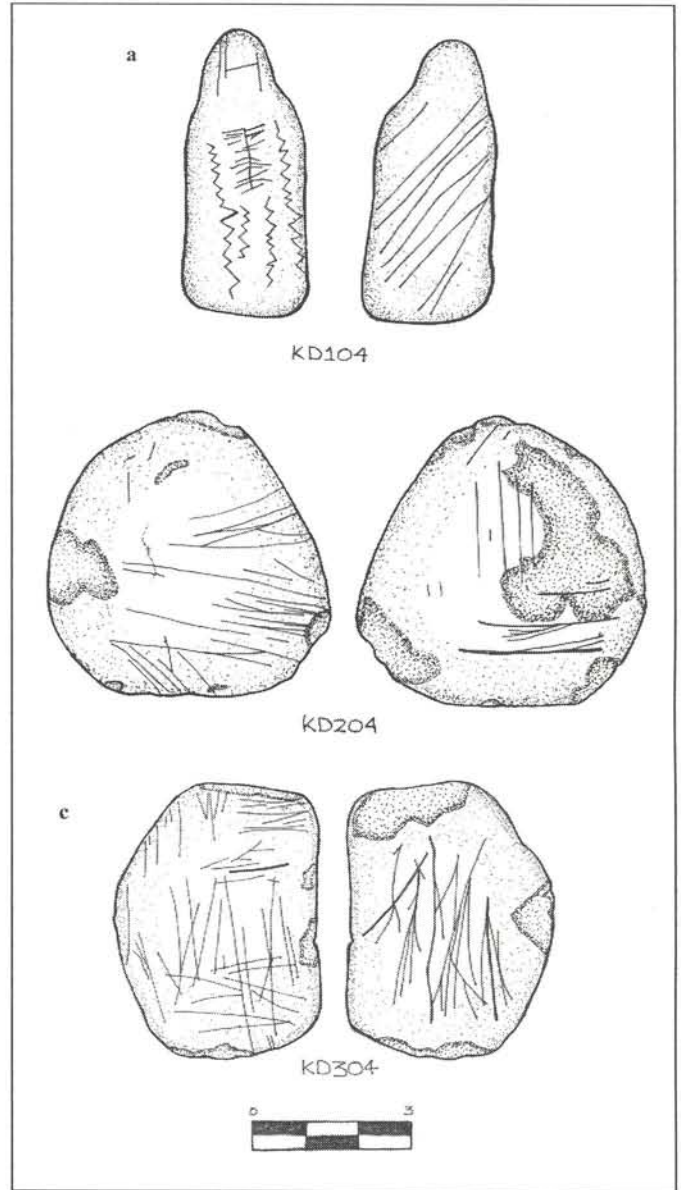


Figure 2. Incised Stones a, KD104; b, KD204; c, KD304.

specimens from Bliss and the Ahsahka Sportsman's Access site exhibit a comparable degree of incising compared to those found along the Pend Oreille River.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION AND CHARACTERISTICS

The nine incised stones reported here vary considerably in size, shape, motifs, design complexity, and type of stone used. According to Dr. Virginia Gillerman of the Idaho Geological Survey, the material from which they were produced would have been obtainable locally: slate, siltstone, metasiltstone, basalt, and argillite (Table 2). Sizes range from 5.5 to 23 cm in length. There is less variation in width with a range of approximately 2-5 cm.

Most of the stones used are unaltered except for the incising, however there are two significant exceptions. Specimen KD404 (Fig. 3a) has extensively smoothed or ground edges, one of which exhibits a drilled hole. KD804 (Fig. 6) is atypical of the other incised stones in both size and shape. Besides being significantly larger, it

has been fashioned into a distinctively more geometric shape. The sides and ends are very straight and angular. In addition to these two exceptions, sample KD504 (Fig. 3b) may have been altered by removal of several flakes on one end. It appears that only one of the previously reported incised pebbles from Idaho was deliberately shaped. A specimen from the Cupan collection is disc-shaped, with a hole drilled through the center (Plew and Cupan 1981).

The most common design elements are zigzags, parallel lines, grid or ladder patterns, and branching lines (Table 1). Seven show geometric forms, repeating patterns, or symmetrical designs. The other two are more obscure. They display numerous, seemingly random lines, some of which are more deeply incised than the others. Other artifacts reported as incised stones, particularly the Huntley and Nance specimens (1979), have incised lines that lack any discernible pattern or regularity. Six of the nine specimens reported here have incising on both sides. One stone also has small pecked or drilled holes that do not go completely through the stone.

None of the incised stones from the Pend Oreille River area were recovered under controlled conditions so there is little context for even tentative dating. Since all of the samples were found along the shoreline, it is probable

that the lines have been eroded over time by the action of water, sand, and tumbling. To what extent the incising has been obliterated is not known.

As noted, the markings on incised stones are often very difficult to see and virtually impossible to photograph. Some lines are extremely shallow and undetectable by feel while others are broad and deep enough to accommodate the tip of a pencil. Shelby Day has rendered the accompanying illustrations as accurately as possible, with advice from archaeologists at Boise State University. Nevertheless, it may be argued that there is an unavoidable element of subjectivity in their depiction.

DESCRIPTIONS OF INDIVIDUAL SPECIMENS

Sample KD104 (Fig. 2a) is the smallest in this assemblage and was found west of Riley Creek by Rose Chaney. It is a thin piece of argillite, irregular in shape, measuring 5.5 x 2 x .3 cm. One side has a series of ten roughly parallel lines, which are bi-sected by a perpendicular line. Beside and below this design are four rows of zigzags that run parallel to each other. There is also a smooth, subtle depression about the size of one's thumb in the center of the stone. On the opposite side are about nine parallel lines going diagonally across the middle of the pebble.

TABLE 1

| PREDOMINATE MOTIFS OF INCISED STONES FROM PEND OREILLE RIVER | | | | | | | |
|---|--------|--------|----------------|-------------|----------------|-------|------------------|
| Collection Identification | Branch | Zigzag | Parallel Lines | Ladder/Grid | Railroad Track | Holes | Geometric Shapes |
| Kee/Day Collection | | | | | | | |
| KD104 | | x | x | | | | |
| KD204 | | | x | | | | |
| KD304 | x | | x | | | | |
| KD404 | | | | x | | x | x |
| KD504 | x | | | x | | | x |
| KD604 | | x | x | | x | | x |
| KD704 | x | | x | x | | | |
| KD804 | | x | x | x | | | |
| KD904 | x | x | | | | | |
| Cupan Collection | | | | | | | |
| Specimen a | | | x | | | x | |
| Specimen b | | x | x | | | | |
| Specimen c | | | x | | | | |
| Specimen d | | | x | | | | |
| Specimen e | | | x | x | | | |
| Specimen f | | | x | | | | |
| Specimen g | | | x | x | | | |
| Specimen h | | | x | | | | |
| Specimen i | | | | x | | | |
| Specimen j | | | x | | | | |
| Specimen k | | | x | | | | |
| Specimen l | | | x | | | | |

Samples KD204, KD304, KD404, and KD604 are from the collection of Willard and Jean Piehl of Sandpoint, Idaho. KD204 (Fig. 2b) is a roughly circular piece of siltstone about 5.5 cm in diameter. One side has a series of lines that radiate out from near the center toward the edge. A few of the lines are deeper than the rest. The reverse has two sets of parallel lines. There is a resemblance to artifacts assumed to be sharpening stones but the lines are quite shallow compared to grooves made through repeated use.

KD304 (Fig. 2c) is similar to KD204 but the shape is more oblong. It is composed of metasiltstone and measures approximately 5 x 4 x .5 cm. Both ends are rough. Like KD204 the lines are roughly parallel, shallow, and seemingly random. Several of the incised stones referenced by Plew and Cupan (1982) and Huntley and Nance (1979) have equally simple and non-descript markings.

KD404 (Fig. 3a) is greenish metasiltstone approximately 7.5 x 4 x 1 cm. Unlike most of the other samples, this one appears to have been carefully shaped or ground. All the edges of the stone are smooth and flat. On one side is an angular design with a roughly hexagonal shape at the apex of a triangular shape. There are several small, shallow holes that are pecked or drilled. The reverse has three long lines the length of the pebble. Fairly regular perpendicular and diagonal lines cross these lines. One edge exhibits a drilled hole approximately 1 cm across and .5 centimeters deep, a feature unique to incised stones that have been reported in Idaho.

Incised stone KD504 (Fig. 3b) was found near the old Laclede ferry site by Lynn Rinker of Post Falls, Idaho. It is basalt, approximately 9.5 x 5 x 2 cm. One side has a line that runs parallel to the length of the stone. About one third of the distance to the end it branches into four lines, fanning out toward the edge. There is also a shorter line that runs parallel to the first. Five lines run between the short and long parallel lines. The reverse side is more irregular and has no discernable markings. One end of the stone may have been altered by removing several large flakes. The other end is cleanly broken.

Sample KD604 (Fig. 4a), also from the Piehl collection, has comparatively intricate markings. It is approximately 9.5 cm long and 4 cm across. The metasiltstone is a dark color and has a very smooth texture. The fine incised lines are nearly indistinguishable from the back-

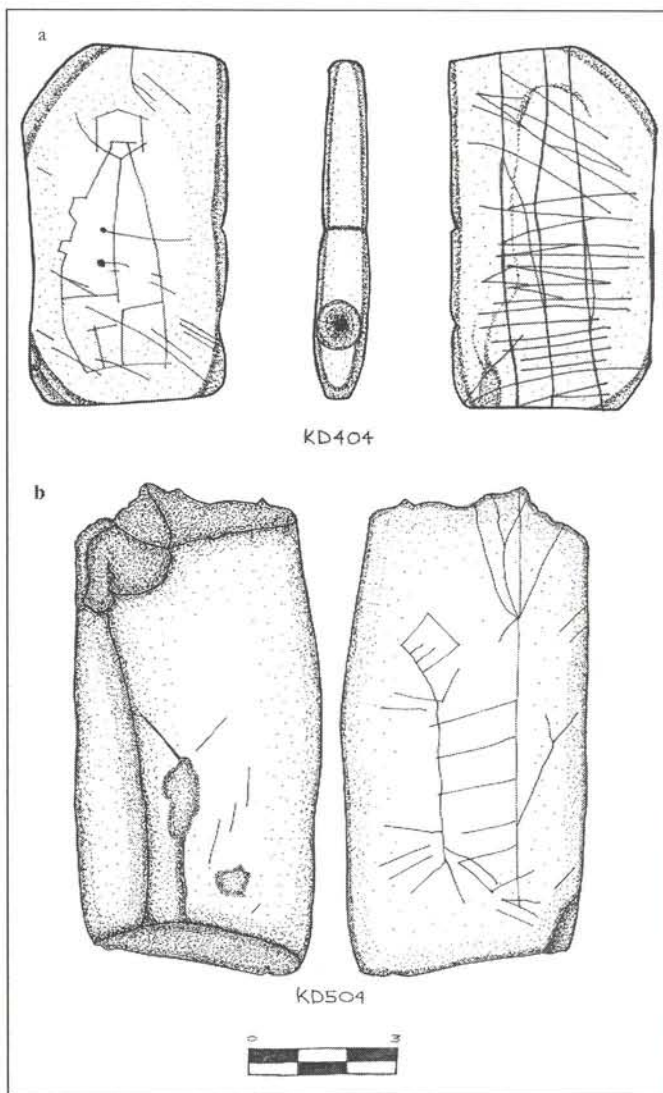


Figure 3. Incised Stones a, KD404; b, KD504.

TABLE 2

| RAW MATERIAL TYPES | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|--------|-------|
| Collection Identification | Argillite | Siltstone | Metasiltstone | Basalt | Slate |
| Kee/Day Collection | | | | | |
| KD104 | x | | | | |
| KD204 | | x | | | |
| KD304 | | | x | | |
| KD404 | | | x | | |
| KD504 | | | | x | |
| KD604 | | | x | | |
| KD704 | x | | | | |
| KD804 | | | | | x |
| KD904 | x | | | | |

ground color of the stone. At first glance it is hard to discern the rather elaborate designs. The incised lines are very close and fine, forming rows of ladder-like, zigzag, and triangle patterns. A relatively bare area framed by rows of incised designs contains a small ovoid shape with 15 lines radiating out from it. There are two bands across the face that are free of markings. The reverse has no incising.

Lyle Leen of Laclede found three incised stones, KD704, KD804, and KD904. KD704 (Fig. 5) is a rectangular piece of argillite measuring 13 x 5 x 1.5 cm. One side has a matching set of triangular designs. Each set is composed of two roughly triangular shapes. The bases of the triangles are at the long edges of the stone and the apices nearly meet in the middle. The reverse has an array of lines including a grid pattern on the lower half and some zigzag lines on the upper half. In fact, this sample bears a resemblance to the stone from Bliss, in Gooding County, as reported by Plew (1981).

KD804 (Fig. 6) is unusual for both the relatively large size and geometric shape. It is an angular piece of slate measuring 23 x 4 x 2 cm. The long sides are very straight and smooth. The lower portion of each long edge is darker and smoother than the rest, suggesting handling or wear there. Both of the short ends are beveled. Near one end is a protuberance of 2 cm that forms a right angle from the body of the stone. Both sides are nearly covered with incised lines going almost the full length and width of the stone. Some lines are appreciably deeper than others. It also displays some zigzag patterning.

Sample KD904 (Fig. 4b) is a roughly ovoid piece of argillite approximately 5.5 x 2.5 x 1 cm. The stone has been broken on one end, with the break following a natural fracture line in the material. The opposite end has cross-hatching that covers about a third of the stone.

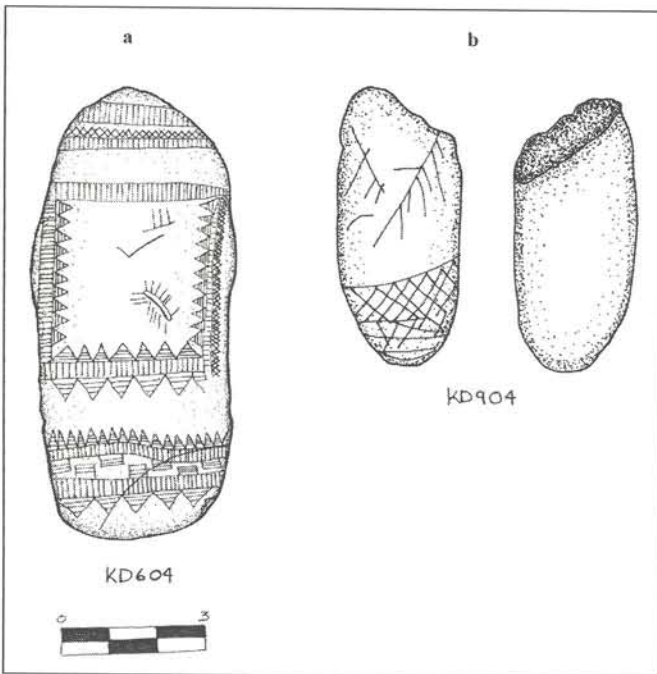


Figure 4. Incised Stones a, KD604; b, KD904.

There are two other faint lines running diagonally from the broken end.

DISCUSSION

Several obvious questions arise: what was the intended use of incised stones? Are they more widespread than current data suggest? Why have so many been found in this locale and on only one side of the Pend Oreille River? According to Sprague (1995) incised stones from North Idaho are closely associated with lakes and waterways, which is indicative of the vital importance of water in first menses ceremonies and ritual observations among the Coeur d' Alene tribe. Without evidence of a utilitarian function it seems most likely that these, too, were either ornamental or had ritualistic significance. However, the specific ethnographic link between rituals of any kind and these incised stones is not definitive.

It would be helpful if we could account for the apparent concentration of them along a section of the Pend Oreille River. Laclede was an important crossing point for trappers, traders, settlers, and everyone traveling through the area. Abundant artifacts indicate that Native Americans congregated on both sides of the river and trading would have been very plausible. Conceivably, incised stones had a function within the trade network. At this point, there is simply not enough information to do more than speculate about their use.

CONCLUSION

This report represents a step toward gaining a better understanding of these little-known artifacts and explaining their apparent concentration on the Pend Oreille

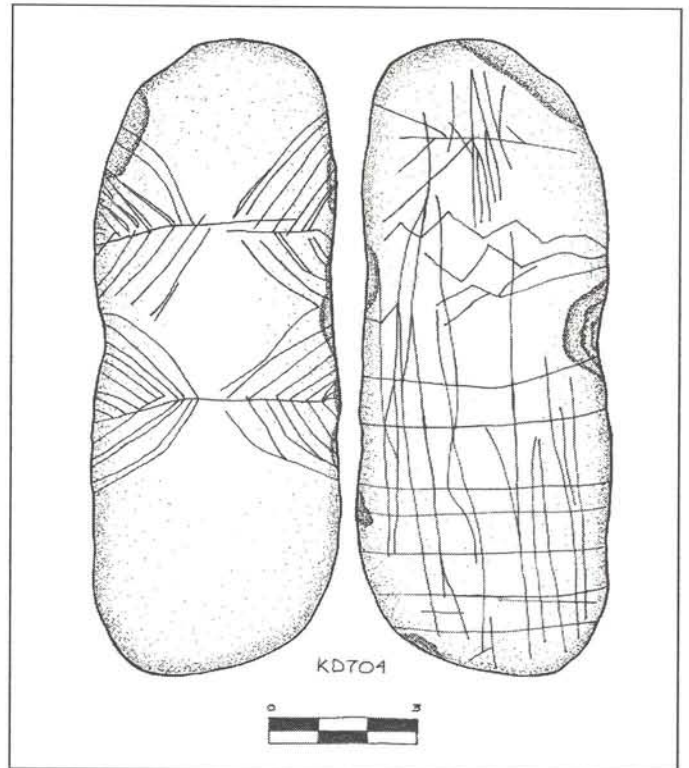


Figure 5. Incised Stone KD704.

River between Dover and Laclede. It seems likely that they have generally been under-reported in Idaho owing to lack of recognition. Most often the natural shape of the stone has been only minimally altered. Since locally occurring stone was used, they are difficult to identify among many similar looking ones. The incising may appear obscure by design, weathering after manufacture, or both. Under typical field conditions in which lighting is marginal and they are dirty or wet, incised stones could be easily overlooked.

It appears that there is a peculiar, geographically limited distribution of incised stones on the Pend Oreille River. If they were more generally distributed, we would expect to locate some from other sites that have been frequented by collectors. Besides a notice in the local newspaper, the author personally contacted numerous area families that have collected artifacts for many years. So far no others have come to light. In fact, none of the collectors contacted knew of their existence. The current evidence points to a local phenomenon, the purpose of

which is unknown but was conceivably related to trade, ornamentation, or ritual.

Documenting this collection of incised stones is intended foremost to increase recognition and reporting of them. It will hopefully stimulate detailed documentation of those that are mentioned in reports, recovered during controlled excavations, or held in private collections. Obviously, specific documentation, thorough descriptions and accurate drawings would be very helpful for continuing research. A larger database would enable us to determine more about commonalities in their design elements, materials, manufacture, and their temporal and spatial distribution. Then perhaps we can formulate hypotheses to uncover their possible use or meaning.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Many thanks are due to the people who assisted with this report. I am especially indebted to Willard and Jean Piehl, Lyle Leen, Lynn Rinker, and Rose Chaney who kindly loaned me the incised stones for study. Shelby Day worked meticulously to accurately portray them with life size drawings. Dr. Mark Plew of Boise State University was generous with his time and expertise. Dr. Chris Hill, also of Boise State University, was a consultant regarding the artifacts and the drawings. Dr. Roderick Sprague, professor emeritus of the University of Idaho offered advice and directed me to some of the sources cited. Dr. Robert Sappington from the University of Idaho also aided with sources. Virginia Gillerman from Idaho Geological Survey provided information regarding North Idaho geology and identified the types of rock used. Their contributions are all sincerely appreciated.

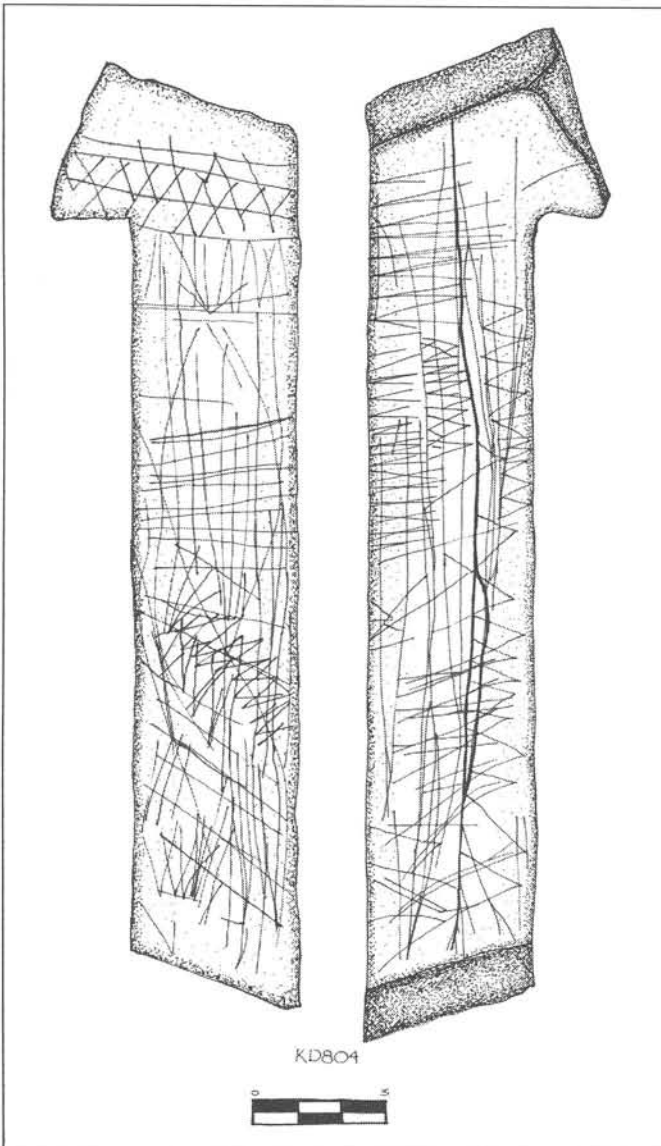


Figure 6. Incised Stone KD804.

REFERENCES CITED

- Huntley, J. and Nance, W.*
1979 More Incised Cobbles. **Idaho Archaeologist** 3(2):8-9.
- Miss, C.J. and Hudson, L*
1987 Cultural Resources Collection Analysis, Albeni Falls Project, Northern Idaho. Prepared by Cultural Resources Consultants, Inc. Sandpoint, Idaho, for the US Army Corp of Engineers, Seattle District, under contract no. DACW67-85-M-0024. On file at the Idaho State Historical Preservation Office.
- Plew, Mark G.*
1981 An Incised Stone from Gooding County, Idaho. **Idaho Archaeologist** 4(3):8-9.
- Plew, Mark and Cupan, Sally*
1981 Incised Stones from the Pend O'Reille (sic) River Area, Northern Idaho. **Idaho Archaeologist** 4(4):18-21.
- Santini, James D.*
1974 A Preliminary Report on the Analysis of Incised Stones From Southern Nevada. **Nevada Archaeologist** 2(1):28-40.
- Sappington, Robert Lee*
1990 Archeological Investigations at the Ahsahka Sportsmen's Access Site (10-CW-5), Clearwater River, North Central Idaho. University of Idaho Anthropological Reports No. 90. Moscow.
- Sprague, Roderick*
1995 An Anthropological and Historical Summary of the Coeur d'Alene Tribe's Ownership of Coeur d'Alene Lake. Testimony, United States of America and Coeur d'Alene Tribe v. State of Idaho, in the United States District Court for the District of Idaho, Coeur d'Alene.

SHORT CONTRIBUTIONS

BOOK REVIEW

IN SEARCH OF CHACO: NEW APPROACHES TO AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ENIGMA

Edited by David Grant Noble, School of American Research Press, Santa Fe, New Mexico, 2004,
140 pages, soft cover, no price given, bibliography, index

Reviewed by Pei-Lin Yu

Like Stonehenge, Karnak, Easter Island, or Xi'an, the ancient cultures of Chaco Canyon allure and intrigue us. Archaeologists, descendant groups, and the general public are drawn to the Chaco phenomenon as a 'mystery,' an 'enigma:' enormous dry-masonry buildings built with great skill and determination in and along a canyon in the northwestern New Mexico desert some 1,000 years ago. Many Idahoans have experienced Chaco personally (my own archaeological career began as a humble intern for the National Park Service's Chaco Center in 1983, washing caliche off sherds, labelling lithics, and helping to draft maps). The volume under review offers this alumna, and the interested public, a welcome update on the state of knowledge about Chaco. The goal of *In Search of Chaco* is to showcase the developing intellectual landscape in Chaco studies, where as Noble puts it, "little basic research—in archaeology, that usually means digging—has taken place in the last 20 years. What has happened has been less a product of shovel and trowel than of the mind: analysis, comparison, interpretation, discussion, and debate" (p. xiv). The articles in this volume do not present new data, but examine information accumulated over 100 years from a variety of synthetic perspectives.

The volume's articles are loosely organized into five complementary sections. The first section presents the latest developments in archaeological understanding, arrived at by shovel, trowel, boot leather, and hypothesis building. Judge's article portrays the 'Golden Century' of Chacoan culture at its apex, asking the big questions: why the Chacra Mesa and not elsewhere? Why the collapse and abandonment? Vivian offers an environmental perspective on these questions, describing unique spatial and chronological features of the local climate and landscape that may have both fostered, and undermined, Chacoan communities. Windes cites environmental and social flux as concentrating forces during the development of Chaco's signature 'great houses,' from Dolores

River area antecedents to the spectacular Pueblo Bonito and its contemporaries. Lekson's article pursues the architectural theme down social organizational avenues, comparing Chaco with Cahokian complexity and arguing for stratified Chacoan societies. Toll describes the broad geographic scope of Chacoan material culture through analysis of pottery and imported exotics, and Cordell confirms this in her chemical analysis of Chaco corn; most of it was apparently grown fifty miles or more from great house communities and brought in for storage.

The second section of the volume offers insights into the relationship between the Chaco culture and traditional communities that occupy the landscape today; in a new twist on the 'direct historical approach,' tribal researcher Kuwanwisiwma (Hopi Nation) traces important continuities between ancient Chaco and modern Hopi clan social organization and subsistence methods. Swentzell, a Santa Clara Pueblo researcher, evaluates the limiting effect of stereotypes that have grown around Euro-American perceptions both of Puebloan and Chacoan cultures. Moving to a Navajo/Dine perspective, Begay discusses the role of ancient Chacoan structures and landscapes in Navajo religion and history, and Brugge adds to the portrait of Chaco's many succeeding cultures by describing use of the local landscape by Navajo pastoralists and Euro-American ranchers.

The third section of the book moves to the super-community scale. The standardization of great-house building techniques, community lay-out, and linking features such as roads, are the focus on Kantner's article. Van Dyke combines concepts of landscapes and skyscapes from Puebloan ethnographies with patterns found in Chacoan structures and communities to infer religious behaviors of Chacoan peoples, and Malville cites landforms, structures, and key petroglyphs in his hypothesis regarding Chacoan perceptions of the relationship between human societies and the sacred.

The fourth section of the volume tackles Chaco's role in the larger arena of ancient organizational complexity. Sebastian's article suggests that anthropologists' dichotomous perceptions of social hierarchy versus egalitarianism, and secular/political versus religious, are hampering our ability to learn from patterns in Chaco's spectacular material record. Renfrew avoids this difficulty by comparing Chaco to medieval European pilgrimage destinations (such as the monastery at Campostella) in which 'high devotional expression' (p. 106) could have taken place either within the context of hierarchical (concentrating wealth) or egalitarian (redistributing wealth) organization. Lipe tracks the decline of Chaco into the growth of Mesa Verde, describing the role of population flux in societal stress and re-organization.

The fifth and last section of the volume offers a bird's eye view of the history of Chaco research. Lister's article follows the people involved, and their changing research perspectives, from the Wetherill family's 'treasure hunts' to the National Park Service's recent collaborations with tribes and international researchers. Mills summarizes the latest debates and where they appear to be taking us, in a good companion piece to Judge's opening article.

I highly recommend this book to all Chaco enthusiasts, and as a fine introduction for those who are not yet

familiar with Chaco. The reader will find the regional map, and the general chronology in the front of the book, to be particularly helpful. The color photographs help capture the breathtaking nature of the structures and their home landscapes. The only criticism I have to offer is the dearth of cited references. Only a Recommended Readings section is provided at the end of the volume. The articles are all summarized information, and without a references section for each, the reader must take the authors' positions 'on faith.'

In conclusion, I recall my first sight of Pueblo Bonito on a hot August weekend in 1973, when I took away a childish impression of utter isolation, a divine loneliness. It's time for Chaco to take its place in the global theater, as this volume clearly shows. A huge body of data from Chaco has been collected through years of work by indefatigable specialists, and we have now passed the point at which this amazing culture can be understood in terms of itself. Archaeological comparisons with Cahokia and Campostella, and new voices coming from traditional tribal research, represent new frames of reference that will enrich our understanding of the Chaco 'enigma.'



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

Non-Profit Organ.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Boise, Idaho
Permit No. 170