

## PREHISTORIC COMPONENT RESULTS

Phase I and II testing at the A. Temple Site (7NC-D-68) revealed the presence of 14 prehistoric artifacts dating to the Woodland I Period (ca. 3000 B.C. - A.D. 1000). However, none of these artifacts were found in good context, and the limited number of artifacts distributed sporadically across the testing area precluded its nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. Thus, no data recovery plan was implemented for the prehistoric component of the Temple Site.

During the course of the Phase III excavations of the site's extensive historic component, additional prehistoric material was recovered. Although a research design expressly created for the recovery of prehistoric artifacts might have created a different data set, the relatively even nature of their distribution suggests that a representative sample of prehistoric material was obtained during excavation of the historic component. Because the sample was small, no spatial analysis of their distribution was undertaken.

The artifacts were processed and catalogued following the Island Field Museum guidelines. All the lithic artifacts were catalogued by raw material and functional categories including projectile point/knife, early and late stage bifaces, flake

tools, debitage, and fire-cracked-rock (FCR). A total of 150 prehistoric artifacts were recovered from the plowzone excavations (Table 4).

TABLE 4

TOTAL PREHISTORIC ARTIFACTS, PHASE III								
	Qtzite	Qtz	Chert	Jas	Rhy	Arg	Chal	Total
Flakes	11(2)	37(5)	11(1)	71(5)		1	3	134(13)
Util. Flake Tool				2			1	3
Woodland I Points	1	2						3
ESBR			1(1)	3				4(1)
LSBR		1		2(1)		1		4(1)
Misc. Stone Tools					1			1
Cores							1	1
Total	12(2)	40(5)	12(2)	78(6)	1	2	5	150(15)
% of Totals	8%	27%	8%	52%	1%	2%	3%	
Not included 94 FCR, 5294 gms.								
Key:	Qtzite	- quartzite		Util.	- utilized			
	Qtz	- quartz		Misc.	- miscellaneous			
	Jas	- jasper		ESBR	- early stage biface reject			
	Rhy	- rhyolite		LSBR	- late stage biface reject			
	Arg	- argillite						
	Chal	- chalcedony						
	(#)	- cortex						

Three stemmed projectile points and eight bifaces were recovered from the site. One of the points was broken and one shows evidence of resharpening. Four early stage and four late stage bifaces were found, of which one had cortex and one was possibly utilized. Other tools recovered included a utilized

rhyolite knife and two jasper utilized flake tools. No prehistoric ceramics were found.

Jasper is the raw material occurring with the greatest frequency among all artifact types except points (Table 4). Quartz and quartzite are also prevalent. Table 5 shows the tabulations of artifacts with and without cortex. The percentage of cortex on the artifacts is low for all the raw materials. Of the 134 flakes recovered from the site, 10 percent have cortex.

TABLE 5

TABULATIONS OF CORTEX VS NON-CORTEX ARTIFACTS						
	Quartzite	Jasper	Chert	Quartz	Other	Total
Cortex	16%	7%	17%	13%	0	10%
Non-cortex	84%	93%	83%	87%	100%	90%

The debitage assemblage (Table 4) from the site is comprised of 52 percent jasper. Only seven percent of the jasper debitage shows cortex indicating that it was probably derived from cores of primary materials rather than cobbles. Although "eyeball" identifications of sources of cryptocrystalline lithic materials can be misleading, it can be noted that much of the jasper debitage falls within the color and texture range of Delaware Chalcedony Complex materials. Particularly interesting is the presence of numerous small magnetite inclusions in both the materials from the Temple Site and the Delaware Chalcedony Complex raw materials. Based on these observations, it is suggested that much of the site's debitage was produced from cores transported to the site and that the cores themselves were

ultimately derived from the Delaware Chalcedony Complex.

The stemmed points date the occupation of this site to the Woodland I Period (ca. 3000 B.C. to A.D. 1000 - Custer 1984). While the amount of debitage is low, the presence of utilized tools, as well as the presence of fire-cracked rock indicates that other activities took place at the site as well. However, the absence of habitation or processing features suggests that a long-term and intensive use of the site did not take place.

The artifact assemblages and their distributions seem to indicate that the Temple Site is most accurately characterized as a transient procurement camp, probably related to hunting. The stone tool kit is extremely limited and is comprised primarily of projectile points, and bifaces, indicating that reduction of bifaces took place at the site. The occupation of the site was not long enough to warrant the construction of a structure. Thus, the Temple Site is envisioned as a very transient camp used by a small party of hunters who were probably killing animals at the nearby poorly drained swamps. Simple butchering of animals, such as gutting, and limited tool kit refurbishing were the main activities at the site. Presumably, the hunters would have left the site with their gutted game and refurbished tools to complete the butchering at another nearby base camp, such as the Clyde Farm Site (Custer 1982), or a staging site, such as the nearby Hawthorn Site (Custer and Bachman 1984). The transient nature of the occupation of the Temple Site is probably due to the fact that flowing surface water is not as readily available in the immediate site area as it is at other local sites.

A similar Woodland I Period prehistoric site located nearby is the Dairy Queen Site (7NC-D-129) located less than 0.5 of a mile away (Custer et al. 1988). The similarities between the two sites shows a periodic revisiting of this area by the local populations during the Woodland I Period.