

Functional Scars:

Chopper of Calico Hills chalcedony. Tool was used to perform the work of reducing the black oak billet to the desired size, but was not used for finishing. No functional scars were detected on the flat side of the chopper and on the ventral side it was difficult to determine if the short flakes resulted from use or from a slight crushing during the percussion sharpening.

Basalt Chopper. Because of improper use, the chopper struck the support and three use flakes resulted on the ventral surface. They were short, rapidly expanding and terminated in a step fracture.

Side Scraper Harrison County, Ind. Flint. Working edge made by simultaneously serrating and pressure retouching on a primary flake. Used to scrape oak paddle by applying pressure and drawing the scraper toward the user. Use flakes were removed from the ventral to the dorsal side. They were small, short, and terminated in step fractures. When the tool is held improperly at an angle less than vertical to the objective piece, a complete flake will be removed. It was determined that no use flakes were removed when scraping leather and hide.

Backed Knife. The backed knife is used similar to using a pocket knife for whittling but the direction of the cut must be kept in line with the knife's edge. If twisted, short deep flakes will be removed from its edges at nearly right angles. When the knife is repeatedly pulled either toward or away from the user, flake scars which are concave to the leading edge of the knife will be pulled from the edge. As each concavity is formed, it establishes a platform. Therefore, subsequent strokes will pull off additional flakes, causing the edge to be damaged and useless.



Chalcedony Drill . Drilling was done by using a chalcedony projectile point which was reshaped to a drill to facilitate hafting to the drill shaft. Penetration of the wood was accomplished by alternately drilling each side of the paddle. The drill was manufactured and drilling done by Gene Titmus. In a very short time the drilling blunted the tip of the implement due to the micro flakes detaching from the drill and imbedding in the wood, causing a double abrasion. Drill had to be resharpened once to penetrate the wood handles of two paddles. Use flakes were diminutive and usually terminated in hinge fractures.