

ANALYSIS OF FLAKES RELATIVE TO FLINTWORKING TECHNIQUEST

Primary steps in the study of flintworking and surface character of stone artifacts

Outline does not deal with form

MATERIALS:

TYPE OF STONE

Flint and Flint-like Materials (silica forms)

Obsidian

Ignimbrite

Rhyolite (basalt)

Lava

Opal

Chalcedony

Hornstone

Jasper

Agate

Petrified Wood

Quartzite

Silicified Sediments

Quartz Crystal

GRADE

Desirable

Undesirable

Cleavage Plane

Inclusions

Vesicules

Crystal Pockets

Under Stress and Strain

Cracks

Checks

Molecular imbalance

Isotropic

Cryptocrystalline

Homogeneous

Elastic

Vitrious

Adequate Size

SOURCE

Quarries

Cobbles

Veins

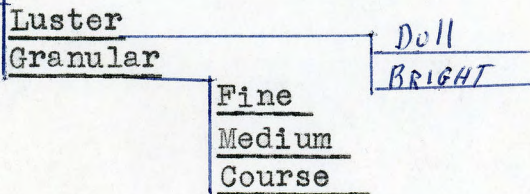
Ledges

Surface, etc.

C.C. 35.9.4.1-6



TEXTURE



COLOR

FLAKES

CHIPS

SPALLS

Portions of material detached by percussion or pressure, or both, from a core or a larger piece of material than the original flake

DETACHED BY:

MAN

HOOFED ANIMAL

ELEMENTS

Natural expansion, contraction & diastrophism

*RAPID TEMPERATURE CHANGES*

INTERNAL PRESSURE

Exfoliation

Dehydration

Shrinkage

Expansion and Contraction

EXTERNAL PRESSURE

Earth Movement

Ice and Ice Movement

TIDES

TALUS

WATERWAYS

THERMAL FRACTURES

Forest Fires

Range Fires

Overheated in Household Fires

1/2



FLAKES

PERCUSSION, PRESSURE  
OR BOTH

MICRO FLAKES

Fine retouching, notching and serrating

Small

Medium

Large

Specialized Flakes

Blades (Prismatic) (Micro)

Parallel Sides

One Dorsal Ridge

Two Dorsal Ridges

Micro Blades

Burin Blades

Sidestruck Flakes

Uniface, European

Channel Flakes

Hinge

Reverse Hinge

Errata

*LENGTH*

Short: Length = Width

Medium: 2 x Length = Width

Long : 3 x Length = Width

Xtra Long: 4 or More x Length = Width

*WIDTH*

*CIRCULAR  
P*

*THINNING*

Thin

Normal

Thick - Tabular

Right angular sides

Sections of cleaved flakes

Sections of pebbles

Sections of cobbles

Sections of nodules

Straight

Curved

Spiral

One Dorsal Ridge

Two or More Dorsal Ridges

Dorsal

Source

Shape of Flake

Ventral

Blade Technique

Possible Heat Treatment



Proximal End

- Size of Platform
- Preparation of Platform
- Character of Bulb or Pressure or Percussion (Etrilure)
- Direction of Force Scars (Striations)
- Presence of bulbar scar
- Angle of Platform
- Polished
- Abraided
- Order of Flaking

Distal End

- Feather Edge
  - Hinge Fracture
  - Step Flake
  - Reverse Hinge
  - Undulations
  - Shock Fracture
  - End Character
- COMPRESSION KNES*

Planned Thermal Treatment  
(Quartz Family)

- Heated
  - Unheated
  - Overheated
  - Crazed
  - Checked, potlids, exfoliation
  - No bulbs of force
- Color change (Cortex) for identification

Cores

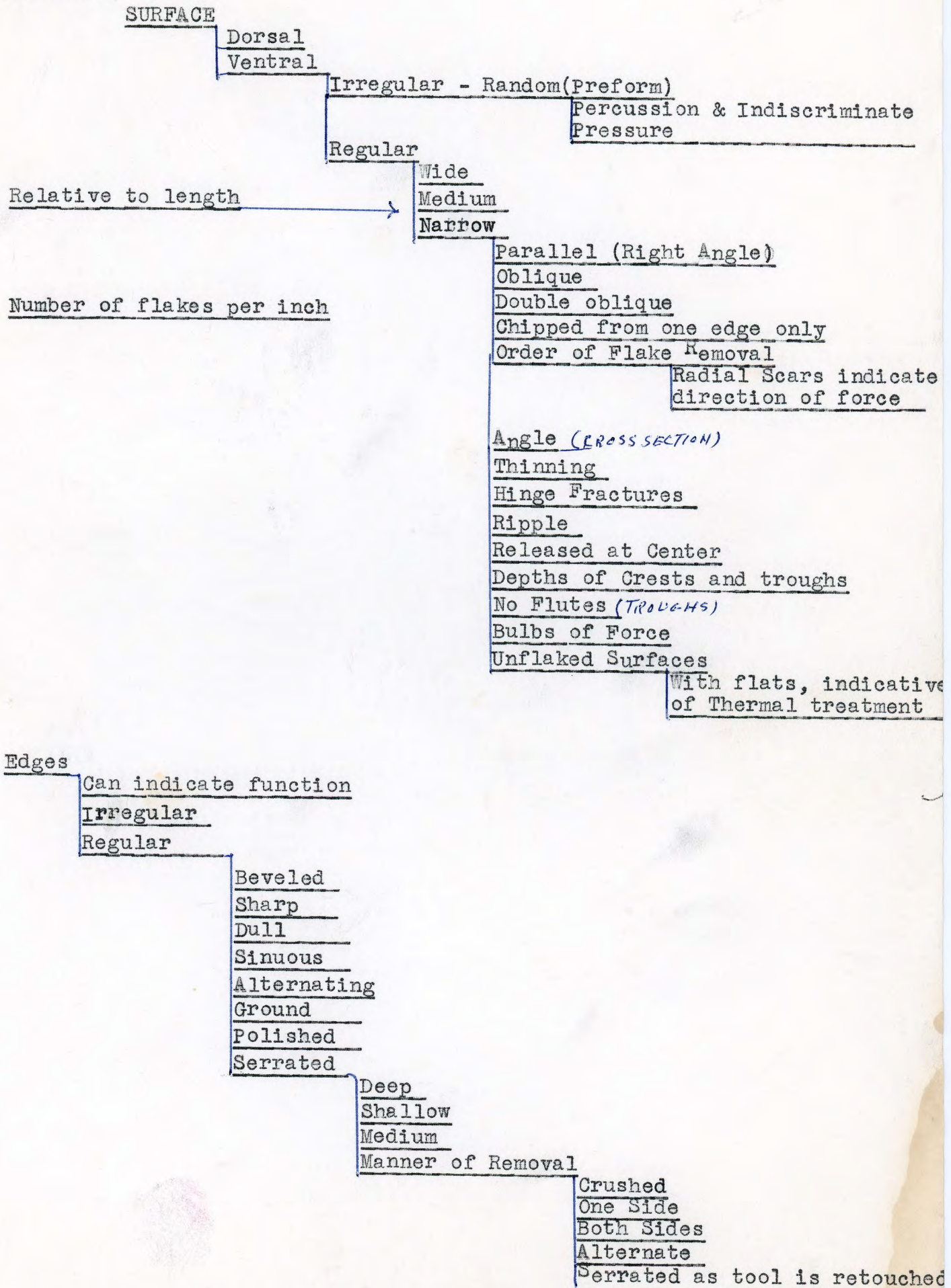
All flaked stone artifacts are cores if the surface of one or more sides are covered with flake scars. Shape will help indicate technique

- Conical
- Cylindrical
- Rectangular
- Uniface
- Turtle back, not European
- Biface
- Multiface
- Utilized Cores

*EXHAUSTED C*



METHOD TYPOLOGY





BASAL ASPECTS

- Thinning
- Fluting
- Grinding
- Polishing
- Hafting Technique or Notching

- side
- Corner
- Basal
- Narrow
- Wide

- Preparation
- Single Flakes on both sides
- Multiple Flakes on Both Sides
- Widening of Notch after Narrow Opening

- Concave
- Convex
- Straight
- Recurved

Specialized Hafting

CROSS SECTION

- Convex
- Double Convex
- Diamond
- Strength May Indicate Function

TIPS

- Sharpening Methods
- Direction of Flakes

NOTE

THE COMPLETED ARTIFACT MAY NOT INDICATE PRELIMINARY STAGES OF MANUFACTURE