

7-2003

Prehistoric Stone Tools of South Carolina

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Publication Info

Published in *Legacy*, Volume 7/#2-8/#1, 2003, pages 30-30.

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THE SOUTH CAROLINA PALEOINDIAN POINT RECORDING SURVEY CONTINUES

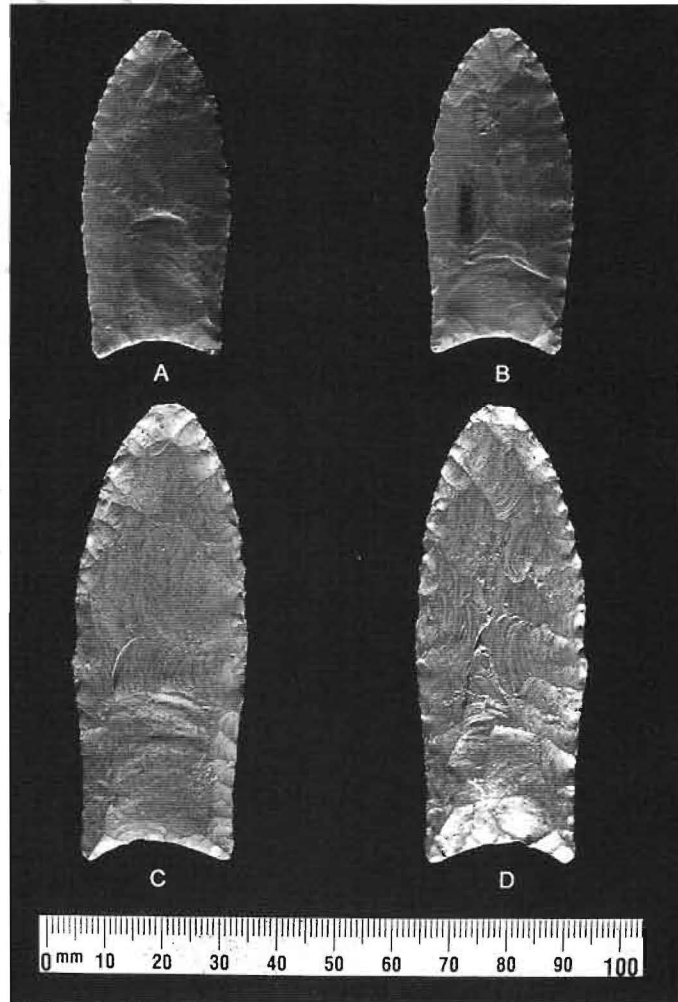
By Tommy Charles

Al Goodyear and I are continuing to record new finds of Paleoindian lanceolate points. Additional examples are being reported sporadically and included in the Statewide Inventory that Tommy Charles has maintained. The count now is up to 340. Several new ones have been reported plus some of the older finds are being photographed or re-photographed by Daryl P. Miller to enhance the photo recordation. If people think they have found a Paleoindian point or know of any found, please contact Tommy Charles or Al Goodyear at the SC Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology (803-777-8170) or email them at charles@sc.edu or goodyear@sc.edu. Examples of classic Clovis points are shown here.

THE PATTERSON SITE ON THE PACOLET RIVER, SPARTANBURG COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

By Tommy Charles

The summer and fall 2002 has been quiet, but very busy. The proposed testing of the Patterson site (38SP156), a Late Archaic site located on the Pacolet River in Spartanburg County, was done periodically during the month of August. This project is being conducted jointly with Dr. Terry A. Ferguson of Wofford College. Ground penetrating radar was first used to evaluate the subsurface ground structure, then a series of auger tests were sunk to depths of 3.5 meters over a portion of the site, and two 1 X 2-meter test pits were excavated. These tests were preliminary and limited but they revealed deep alluvial sand deposits adjacent to older upland terraces and a yet unidentified scatter of prehistoric cultural debris at approximately one meter below the ground surface in the sands. Plans are underway to analyze the soil samples collected from the testing and to expand testing to other parts of the site. Eventually, we will excavate areas in the alluvial sands to examine the cultural materials discovered there.



Clovis points from York (upper) and Allendale (lower) Counties, South Carolina. (SCIAA photo by Daryl P. Miller)

PREHISTORIC STONE TOOLS OF SOUTH CAROLINA

By Tommy Charles

Work on "The Prehistoric Stone Tools of South Carolina," a report in progress, is near completion. It has evolved into a more massive project than I had originally planned, but the extra work and attention is needed. Working with the graphics is almost completed and it has consumed a considerable amount of time. Photographs being used are ones taken by me some 15-20 years ago while conducting the Collections Survey. They were taken in attics, garages, outdoors, or wherever circumstances dictated in order to create records. As such, many photographs are in less than state-of-the-art condition. Each photograph used is refurbished using Apple Computer and Photoshop software. We have decided to create these manuals for

both the SCIAA Library and Information Management Division. They will be completed by early spring.

UPDATE OF PETROGLYPH SURVEY

By Tommy Charles

The petroglyph survey continues as time permits. This past year a number of sites were revisited to obtain more complete data before filling out site forms for each. To date 47 sites have been recorded and there are five others that await further investigation before assigning site numbers. The two most recent discoveries are in Laurens and Spartanburg Counties.