

Analysis and Significance of the Copper Site in Cahokia's Hinterlands

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Copper Site (11-S-3)

- Robert Grimm
- NW of Lebanon, IL
- Silver Creek
- AKA Ping, Copper Camp, Prine
- Named for copper
- Agricultural land, grazing
- Few modern homes
- Multiple landowners

Copper Site

- Multicomponent
- Archaic through Historic
- Historic cemetery
- Extensively collected
- Multiple collectors
- Still collected



Significance

- Future of collection
- Residential development
- Private property
- Literature scarce
- Gregory Perino



Robert Grimm

- Metro-East area
- WW II Veteran
- Indian Relic Collectors Club
- JB Griffin
- Amateur arch



Grimm's collection

Robert Grimm

- Subsequent to rains, early morning
- Never knew landowners
- 1940s
- Surface collection
- Intrusive methods (excavation)

Collection

- 391 chert
- 34 other lithics
- 36 ceramics
- 38 organics
- 1 glass bead

Chert Artifacts

- 391 total
- Represents Archaic through Mississippian
- Burlington, Mill Creek, Cobden



Arrow Points

- Half of chert collection (196/391)
- Madison points
- Cahokia points
- Typical Late Woodland through Mississippian



Arrow points



Arrow points

Drills

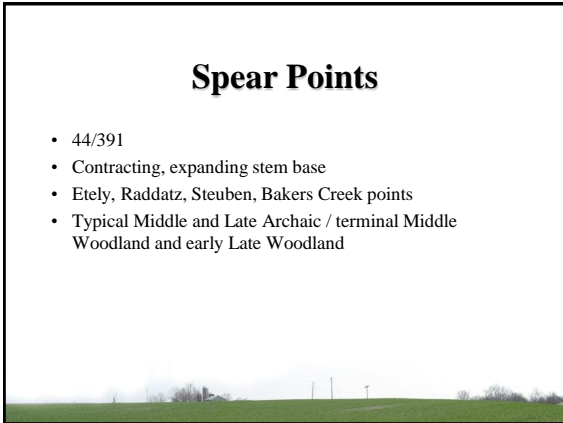
- 9 drills
- Typical (Late) Archaic, Woodland



Drills

Spear Points

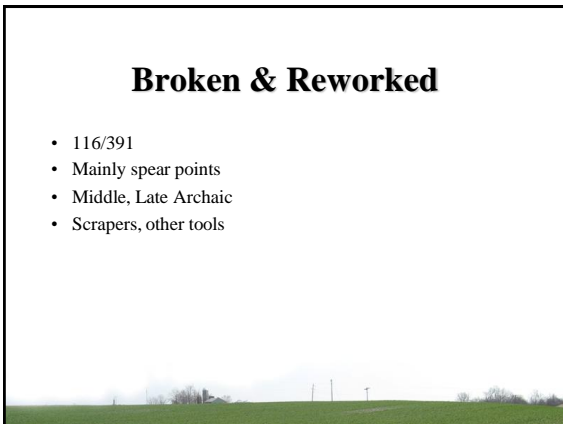
- 44/391
- Contracting, expanding stem base
- Etely, Raddatz, Steuben, Bakers Creek points
- Typical Middle and Late Archaic / terminal Middle Woodland and early Late Woodland



Spear points

Broken & Reworked

- 116/391
- Mainly spear points
- Middle, Late Archaic
- Scrapers, other tools



Reworked and broken points

Other Lithics

- Galena (5)
- Lead (2)
- Hematite (3)
- Sandstone (3)
- Granite (7)



Sandstone abraders



Hammerstones / Nutting stones



Axe and Celts

Organics

- 35 total
- Deer bone
- Marine (16) and freshwater (2) shell
- Turtle shell
- Charred maize



Bone



Turtle shell and uni/bi-points

Ceramics

- 36 total
- "Exotic" artifacts
- Shell temp (80%)
- Red slipping
- Cahokia CM
- Wells Incised plate
- Handles
- Bottle neck
- Effigy



Cahokia Cordmarked sherds



Wells Incised plate and Late Mississippian incised plate



Bird effigy and handles

Glass

- Single glass bead
- Mid-1700s (Colonial period)
- Wide geographic variation
- Association?



Copper

- 13 pieces
- Awl
- Bone
- Context



Mounds

- 3 recorded
- GPS
- 2 possible locations



Conclusion

- Late Middle and Late Archaic
- Terminal Middle and Late Woodland
- Dense occupation during early and late Mississippian (Emergent, Sand Prairie)
- Colonial?
- Historic
- Biased sample: lithics, ceramics



Conclusion

- Mound site
- Heavily occupied
- Red-slipped fine ware
- Copper
- Extensive trade networks- trade route?

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Questions?