Lithic Analysis:
An In-depth Look at Surface Collections from the Gehring Site

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The Gehring Site
Hypothesis

• Chronology
  – Late Archaic through Mississippian
  – Main during Middle Woodland

• Function
  – Habitation Site

• Spatial Distribution
  – Middle Woodland throughout
  – Late Woodland and Mississippian confined to central area
Methods

• Surface Collection
• Analysis and Identification
  – Chert type
  – Thermal alteration
  – Debitage or Tool
  – Diagnostics
• Database Entry
• Spatial Analysis
Total Sample Analyzed

Analysis Totals

Debitage 95%
Tool 5%

Debitage

Tool
Total Sample Analyzed

- Burlington: 78%
- Unidentified: 12%
- Cobden/Dongola: 2%
- Mill Creek: 2%

Chert Type Totals
Debitage Results

- Biface Reduction: 35%
- Shatter: 41%
- Core Reduction: 12%
- Unidentified: 12%
Tool Results

- Blade: 37%
- Flake Tool: 28%
- Hoe Flake: 23%
- Projectile Point: 9%
- Knife: 1%
- Core: 1%
- Drill: 1%
- Scraper: 0%

Total Tools
Diagnostics
Spatial Analysis

Hoe Flakes
Conclusion

• Site use from Middle Archaic through Mississippian, predominately during the Middle Woodland and Mississippian periods

• Habitation site during Middle Woodland and Mississippian

• Middle Woodland and Mississippian Occupations spread throughout
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