

University of Nebraska - Lincoln

DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Transactions of the Nebraska Academy of
Sciences and Affiliated Societies

Nebraska Academy of Sciences

1973

Clovis Projectile Point Occurrences In Northwestern Nebraska

Larry D. Agenbroad
Chadron State College

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/tnas>

Agenbroad, Larry D., "Clovis Projectile Point Occurrences In Northwestern Nebraska" (1973). *Transactions of the Nebraska Academy of Sciences and Affiliated Societies*. 363.
<https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/tnas/363>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Nebraska Academy of Sciences at DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln. It has been accepted for inclusion in Transactions of the Nebraska Academy of Sciences and Affiliated Societies by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln.

CLOVIS PROJECTILE POINT OCCURRENCES IN NORTHWESTERN NEBRASKA

Larry D. Agenbroad
Department of Earth Sciences,
Chadron State College, Chadron Nebraska 69337

ABSTRACT: Two Clovis projectile point finds are reported from the Panhandle of Nebraska (Dawes and Sioux Counties). Both are surface finds and both bear resemblance to finds in Arizona and Oklahoma.

Two recent Clovis projectile point finds from the Panhandle of Nebraska warrant description. The artifacts are in the possession discoveror, Mr. William (Bill) Hudson of Crawford, Nebraska. Both artifacts are surface finds in local areas of bad land topography in Dawes and Sioux Counties. The rarity of occurrence of this distinctive projectile point in Nebraska, whether surface find or not, makes the discoveries of importance. To my knowledge (Agenbroad, 1971), there are no occurrences of Clovis projectile points, *in situ*, in stratified sites within the state. At least all published records are a surface finds or recovered from sand screening operations in gravel pits. The significance of Clovis projectile points as time and cultural markers makes record of their occurrence important regardless of the nature of the find.

The two Panhandle points include one complete point and one basal fragment (Fig. 1). The metric data (in *mm* unless stated otherwise) for the two points are as follows: data for the complete point are given first, that for the basal fragment follow in parentheses: maximum width 29 (33), weight in grams 37.6 (—), maximum thickness 9 (5), maximum length 106 (—), distance from base to point of maximum thickness 53 (41), base width 26 (31), depth of basal concavity 5 (6), flute scar 0.30, R.29 (0.22, R.37), lateral grind L(29) R37, L31, R(39). Both points are of agate.

Comparison of the metric data for these specimens and that for points recovered at classic sites (e.g., Lehner Ranch, Naco I and II, Murray Springs, Escapule, Arizona; Dent, Colorado; Clovis, New Mexico; and Domebo, Oklahoma) indicate that the Nebraska points readily fall within the range of values for points from classic sites. The greatest affinities of the Nebraska points are with those of the Arizona and Oklahoma sites.

The Clovis point is the lithic marker for the Llano period and is usually found with mammoth remains when there is a faunal association. Recent work at Murray Springs also indicates association with bison and possibly horse remains (Haynes and Hemmings, 1969).

Haynes (1964) summarized the absolute chronology for the dated occurrences of this tool type. An average age of $11,360 \pm 360$ radiocarbon years was obtained from six Clovis horizon dates. The projectile style falls within the time range of 10410 ± 190 to 11600 ± 400 years before present.

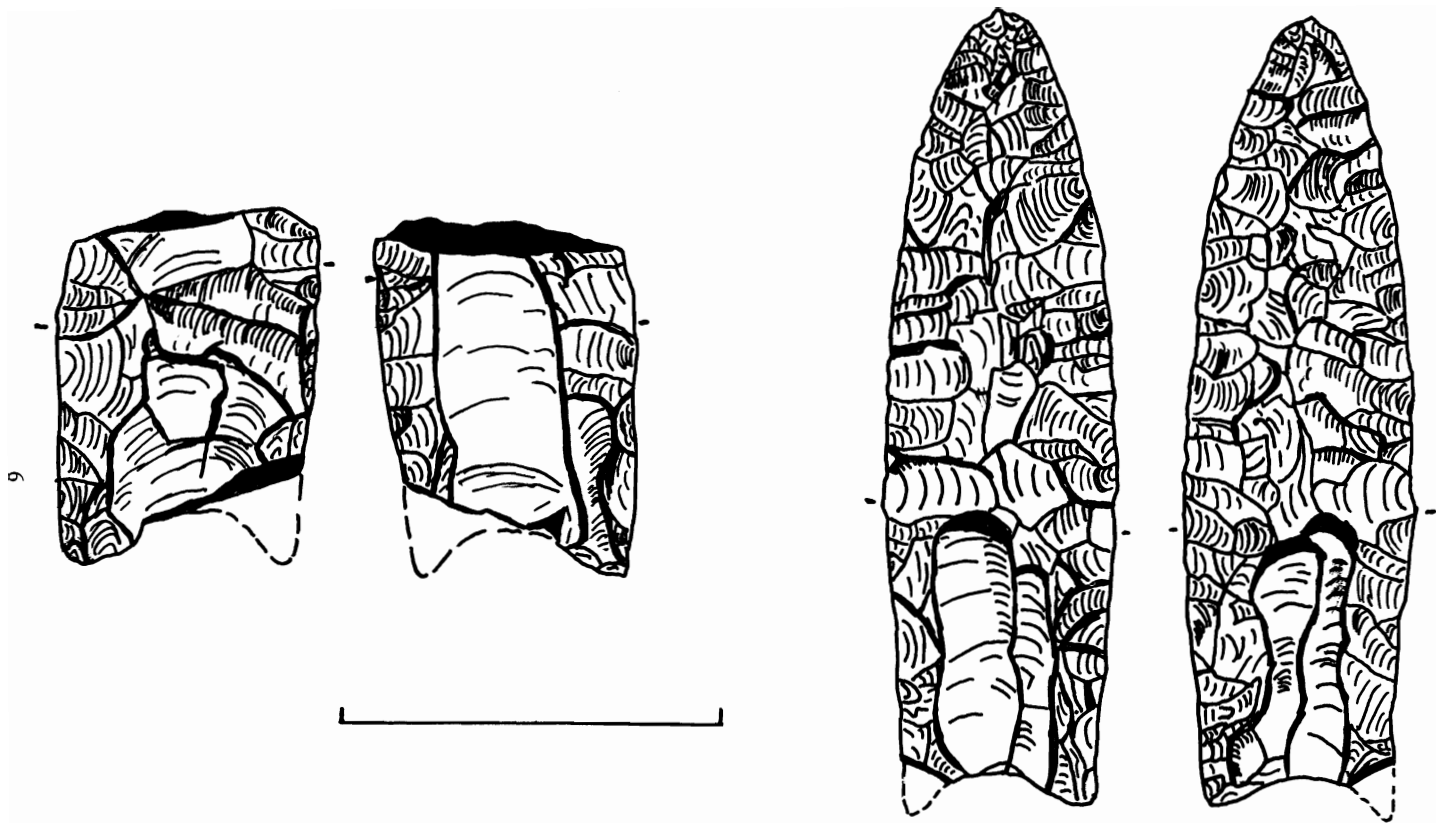


Figure 1

Clovis projectile points from Dawes and Sioux Counties, Nebraska. From collection of W. Hudson. Line represents 5 cm.

BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

REFERENCES CITED

- Agenbroad, L. D. 1971. The reported occurrences of Clovis projectile points in the State of Nebraska. In press.
- Haynes, C. V. 1964. Fluted projectile points: Their age and dispersion. *Science* 145:1408-13.
- Haynes, C. V. and E. T. Hemmings. 1969. Analysis of a Clovis Bison Kill Site and Processing area. Paper presented at 34th annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Milwaukee, Wis. 1-3 May.