

HbRf-39 Lithics and bone tools metadata
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This data set relates to artifacts excavated during 1974, 1983, 1990 and 1991 seasons at HbRf-39. Most artifacts were recovered from 1/8 inch (3mm) screens, although some were given three-dimensional provenience in the field. Artifacts from pre-1983 test excavations (two 1974 test pits) were incorporated into the catalogue of 1983 lithics built by Diana Alexander after the 1983 season. It should be noted that almost all of the projectile points recovered in 1983 were lost after they were brought to SFU. This loss coincided with a serious car accident involving the principal investigator (Knut Fladmark). It is likely that the artifacts had been loaned to another researcher and were never returned. Fortunately, the oldest projectile point (the so-called “fluted” point) was in a secure location. Drawings and photographs of the lost artifacts still exist. Lithic drawings have been scanned for the digital archive; original drawings are stored in the physical archive.

Most of the artifacts from the site are of flaked stone. There are small numbers of ground stone artifacts, hammerstones and pieces of ochre, as well as a small number of artifacts made of bone and antler. All the lithics specimens are included in a catalogue. A small number of bone and antler objects are described at the end of this document.

The major analysis of the flaked stone artifacts was undertaken by Martin Handly for his MA thesis. He provided detailed analysis of most of the flaked stone artifacts from 1974, 1983, 1990 and 1991 seasons that could be assigned to a cultural component. The current catalogue builds on his work by adding a small number of flaked stone artifacts that had been mistakenly

included in the faunal collection, as well as all the ground stone, ochre and bone/antler artifacts. In addition, flaked lithics from test excavations away from the main excavation area in front of the cave are also included in the catalogue, even though they come from locations where there was little or no stratigraphy. A copy of Handly's thesis is included in this digital archive, as well as an unpublished report that he prepared on lithics from areas of the site where stratigraphy was less clear and artifacts could not be assigned to a time period. Prior to 2019 most flaked stone artifacts had been assigned a catalogue number, and each artifact was stored in a plastic bag, together with a 3-inch by 5-inch card with information about provenience. In 2019 the artifacts were placed in smaller bags, together with smaller labels printed on archival paper and using archival ink. In addition, catalogue numbers were assigned to all artifacts that had not yet received a number. The original catalogue cards were all kept. Artifacts were then stored by unit number and layer/level designation.

The current artifact catalogue

The purpose of this catalogue is to provide a basic description and provenience information for every artifact from HbRf-39 up to the end of the 1991 excavation season. Details of Handly's comprehensive analysis of flaked stone can be found in his thesis and appendices.

This catalogue provides the following information for each artifact:

- Artifact number
- Excavation unit from which it was excavated (see document on excavation and stratigraphy)
- The layer and level (see document on excavation and stratigraphy)

- The cultural component (derived from Handly's thesis and the article by Driver et al. 1996)
- A very basic categorization (see below)
- Any special notes about the artifact

The following artifact categories are used in this catalogue:

Following Handly's work, flaked stone was divided into four basic categories:

- 1:debitage
- 2: formed tool
- 3: core
- 4: projectile point/biface

In addition, the following new categories were created for this catalogue

- 5: ground stone
- 6: hammer stone
- 7. Ochre

During the re-bagging of artifacts we encountered a number of pieces that did not appear to have been culturally modified. These are identified in the catalogue as "non-cultural?". Using Handly's collection of 3x5 inch cards, the following lithic specimens were identified by Handly as missing from the collection: 3, 11, 24, 25, 30, 44, 65, 72, 87, 89, 100, 837. Three specimens formerly classified as stone tools were identified by Handly as faunal remains (82, 342 and 1663) and one specimen (1709) as shell.

The following catalogue numbers did not have a card from Handly's analysis, nor are they present in the final lithic catalogue: 15, 18, 36, 38, 45, 46, 49, 70, 84, 90, 196, 210, 222, 291, 594, 651, 671.

A very small number of objects of worked bone and antler were recovered, as follows.

Number	Unit	Layer	Level
5	3	1	7
23	5	1	2
29	5	3	1
35	5	3	3
43	1	1	16
57	3	5	1
2	7	1	
2100	33	75	3
2101	33	75	1
2102	33	75	1
2103	25	1	1
2104	7	?	?
2105	6	1	9

No systematic study has been made of bone and antler objects, and some may not even be worked.