Projectile Point Analysis
Shoofly Village
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SHOOFLY CHAPTER
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The Projectile Points analyzed for this project were recovered during Arizona State University's first field season at Shoofly Village. Shoofly Village is a large masonry compound whose main occupation has been initially dated at 1200-1300 AD. The site is basically defined by a compound wall measuring approximately 120mx140m. A central room block core of possibly two stories is located in the center of the compound around which are found large open plazas interspersed with smaller room clusters, as well as small inclosed plazas.

The form used to analyze the points was developed with the help of Jane Bradley. The general dimensions of each point were recorded, (length, max. width, & thickness). Different areas on the point were than classified according to morphological types, (point, edge, base, cross section, stem and facial modifications). The condition of each point was also noted, (whole, broken tip or base, etc).

After the general characteristics were recorded a classification was assigned to each point. The classifications used are as follows:

Isoceles- 2 sides of equal length at basically equal angles to the base, but the sides are not equal in length to the base. Most also have a point classified as very sharp and straight sides.

Elongated Isoceles- basically the same as regular Isoceles, but their width to length ratio is smaller. Total length tends to be longer also.

Eqilateral- 2 sides of equal length, which are basically the same length as the base. Width to length ratio is larger than both the Isoceles and Elongated Isoceles.

Ovate- the basic shape of these points is oval or egg shaped, edges are convex with the base not being the widest part of the point.

Stemmed- a general category for all points that basically have a stemmed base
instead of an edge that continues all the way to the base as in all other categories.

Miscellaneous- any points that don't fall into above categories.

Materials from which the points were made was also noted. The predominate material was Birch Mesa Chert (24 points). Other Cherts noted were Preacher Canyon, East Verde, Camp Tontozone, and Payson Moss. Non-Cherts present were Fine Grain Basalt and Obsidian. A few were made from Cherts that I was unable to identify with my limited knowledge of the lithic materials.

An analysis of point distribution throughout the site by location, (room type, plaza, etc) and by depth is not possible at this time, but should be considered in the future when more of the site has been fully excavated. A comparison between rooms may reveal some differences between which people, living in different parts of the site, used different points.

Along with the above suggestions I also recommend that the form and analysis developed this season be carried out during future excavations of the site. I also would like to receive information of future points collected for my own personal continued interest.
Ratio of Width to Length

Equilateral = /\/
Isosceles = ::::
Elongated Isosceles = //\

Number of Notched and Un-Notched
Number of Points by Material Type