

Scholar Alert - [Mississippian site] cacao

James,

Chocolate has been found at Cahokia. Making cocoa by grinding seedpods or drinking chocolate is mentioned numerous times in the Chinese record Laurie is translating..

Mark Nickless

Scholar Alert: [Mississippian site]

Chemical Analysis of Cacao Residues in Archaeological Ceramics: Considerations of contamination, sample size and systematic controls
DK Washburn, WN Washburn, PA Shipkova... - Journal of Archaeological ..., 2014

... Similarly, wild cherry, wild grape and dogwood were found at the nearby BBB motor site (Johannessen, 1984a, Whalley, 1984). ... are present throughout the sites in the American Bottom region from the Late Archaic through the Woodland and Mississippian periods (Johannessen ...

Missouri Artifact Identification Request

I did add another photo 1588.jpg - a PhotoShop enlargement only of the 'cropped' photo. There are maybe 10 symbols across the top & some along the bottom edge, don't seem an ancient scrip to me. At right is what looks like a dead animal laid out in a modern-looking (perfect) circle - head hangs at right - [a circled asterisk (?)]. At left is a pyramid with likeness of a Masonic symbol at its peak. Middle is a perfectly drawn bow with an arrow. I may have missed some things. Even tho' copper/lead looks long-weathered the bow & arrow seem too perfect to be that old.

Maybe a fur trade token since found along a creek?

Vance will like your thoughts. Jim Leslie

Lisa Haney, Program Manager,
Missouri Archaeological Society
Center for Archaeological Research
Missouri State University
901 South National Avenue
Springfield, MO 65897

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Missouri-Archaeological-Society-Inc/196590760966?ref=ts>
<http://associations.missouristate.edu/mas/identification.html>

Hi Lisa,

Request assistance in identifying the artifact below.

Provenance: Photo recently posted Facebook reports artifact found in NW Missouri, plow zone (8 inches below surface), edge of field next to creek.

Material: Copper (?)

Does CAR have a reference collection of mid-19th/early 20th Century Masonic marks?

Thank you for any thoughts you might share.

Regards,
Vance Tiede

Steve,

Is there any chance of getting closer photos of the symbols? It looks like it's made of lead rather than copper, but I'll take your word for it.

Scott

This copper piece was allegedly discovered in Missouri by a river at a depth of eight inches. I don't have any other info other than it was posted on our We Nooch Facebook page. Anyone know anything about this?

Steve

Perhaps it is a map using symbology where certain symbols match terrain features, such as the Knights of the Golden Circle used to hide caches post-Civil War. If dating the relic can be done, look at area maps in those years, if any.

Might be made of Michigan copper too... if has traces of silver and can be tested? And if so, dates older than first thought, and may point to cultures back during mining operations there?

Jim, I think the "pyramid" triangle is a teepee and the "masonic symbols" at the top of the teepee are the lodge poles. The "dead animal" is a pelt, probably buffalo hide. The patina on this places it as modern, in my opinion. The method of incising the plate included using a straightedge - also modern. The script could be Masonic, KGC, Woodsmen, Odd Fellows or a dozen other fraternal organizations. Or it could be a ancient or modern native medicine lodge script. Some of the symbols are close approximations of treaty marks. Would love to hear Ida Jane's take on the symbols.

--

Rick Osmon

Producer for:
Unraveling the Secrets
The Oopa Loopa Cafe
The Peake Experience

3 files to attach ...forwardmissouriartifact

Can you pass this around to the group?????? what is it??????

This is an axe found on the shore of Lake Superior.
From Wayne

Probable identification icon to show Axe ownership. Looks like the 4 vertical grooves were made first, then the smaller marks made over the 2 middle vertical grooves. Reminds me of the old dollar sign \$. I assume its copper.

Any ideas ?? Jim Leslie

It reminds me of the axes found in Canada and, I think, New England, that were credited to King Woden-lithi by Barry Fell in Saga America, and discussed more in detail in his book Bronze Age America. Those axes had the Tifinag language on them <http://www.faculty.ucr.edu/~legnerref/bronze/bronze5.htm> which was the written language of the Norse before runes. King Woden-lithi, for those who do not know, spent five months himself, establishing a colony-trading post with the Algonquins at present day Peterborough, Ontario, which traded woven cloth for copper ingots and furs. Evidence of his 1700BC visit was left in petroglyphs there.

Eric A. Hanson

Attach file ...symbol.jpg

Two Artifacts for MES Opinions

I noticed one line on top is short and ends, the rest all circle back.

This was found in approx 1992. Horse packing trip in Tushar Mountains above Marysvale.

The Tushars have a few very high peaks that have shale slides and are 12000 ft high. There is a flint chipping site of the Fremont indians not far as the crow flies from the location this was found.

I rode/walked up a steep incline to get close to a huge pine tree on one of these tallus type slopes and rested at the base of it and this was laying there. I thought it was cool and being young I thought glacial scratch, but as it sat in my rock collection I pulled out years later I thought that is for sure man made. Lots of mining activity in area. Found approx 10500 ft elevation. It was a mile above some springs and beaver ponds my family has rode into since the 20s .Our family has grazed and hunted this moutain since 1910s and have actually seen arrowheads this high.

Let me know what you think, I also thought I could give it to the Fremont Indian Museum as it is only 12-13 miles from the site as crow flies, thats if it is Native American.

thanks for your help,
Cameron
893-8005

-Jim Leslie - *from Wikipedia* - - The **Tu shar Mountains** are the third highest mountain range in [Utah](#) after the [Uinta Mountains](#) and the [La Sal Range](#). Located in the [Fishlake National Forest](#), [Delano Peak](#), 12,174 ft (3,711 m) NAVD 88,^[1] is the highest point in both [Beaver](#) and [Piute](#) counties and has a prominence of 4,689 ft (1,429 m). Delano Peak is named for Columbus Delano (1809–1896), Secretary of the Interior during the Grant administration. The Tushars receive an ample amount of snow annually even though they are situated within the rain shadow of the Sierra Mountain Range located in California and the Snake Range located in Nevada.

The main part of the range is in [Beaver](#), [Piute](#) and [Sevier](#) counties. The northwestern corner extends into the southeastern corner of [Millard County](#) and the southern end extends into the corners of [Garfield](#) and [Iron](#) counties.^[2]

The Tushars are bounded roughly by [I-15](#) to the west, [I-70](#) to the north, [US-89](#) to the east and [U-20](#) to the south. [U-153](#) crosses the southern part of the range between [Beaver](#) and [Junction](#).^[2]

Attach screenshot right here.

MES Opinion 2

This was found on our ranch south of Marysvale Utah, wanted your opinion on it also, hope it not a bother

From Jim Leslie: In Ohio it's an Indian pendant & worn around the neck. Dr. Lee Siu-Leung of our MES club would call it a Gui – a Gorget, worn around the neck by Chinese to denote their rank. The longer/bigger the Gui the higher the rank of the individual. S-L says the Indians adopted the Gui after contact with visiting Chinese many years ago. Hopefully S-L will respond with better explanation --- Jim Leslie.

Attach file....mesopinion2...

Clarification. Gui 圭 is not worn on the neck. It is held in the hand of the one in power. There are different sizes and shape for different purposes and ranks.

There was one unearthed in a burial mound in east Tennessee (?) held in the hands of the owner.

Gui started out probably as a stone axe. Later it was used to determine time and season, by tracking the sun's movement.

You can copy the Chinese character and find more pictures in Google.

The term gorget was assigned erroneously by Peabody Museum people way back. It is too heavy to be worn and offers no protection if one doesn't have an armor.

SL Lee

MES Opinion

I noticed one line on top is short and ends, the rest all circle back.

This was found in approx 1992. Horse packing trip in Tushar Mountains above Marysvale.

The Tushars have a few very high peaks that have shale slides and are 12000 ft high.

There is a flint chipping site of the Fremont Indians not far as the crow flies from the location this was found.

I rode/walked up a steep incline to get close to a huge pine tree on one of these talus type slopes and rested at the base of it and this was laying there. I thought it was cool and being

young I thought glacial scratch. but as it sat in my rock collection I pulled out years later I thought that is for sure man made. Lots of mining activity in area. Found approx 10500 ft elevation. It was a mile above some springs and beaver ponds my family has rode into since the 20s .Our family has grazed and hunted this moutain since 1910s and have actually seen arrowheads this high.

Let me know what you think, I also thought I could give it to the Fremont Indian Museum as it is only 12-13 miles from the site as crow flies, thats if it is Native American.

thanks for your help,

Cameron

893-8005

From Jim Leslie: In Ohio it's an Indian pendant & worn around the neck. Dr. Lee Siu-Leung of our MES club would call it a Gui – a Gorget, worn around the neck by Chinese to denote their rank. The longer/bigger the Gui the higher the rank of the individual. S-L says the Indians adopted the Gui after contact with visiting Chinese many years ago. Hopefully S-L will respond with better explanation --- Jim Leslie.

This is not gui. That is all I can comment. Gui should be well polished with one hole. The gui in Norther America are modified and might have more than one hole.

SL Lee

From Jim Leslie - I should have sent this comment instead:

Robert Converse, Editor of *Ohio Archaeology Journal*, & author of many arch. Books, e.g. *The Arch. Of Ohio*, has run across artifacts, usually broken that have been 'X'ed' out with many hashed lines, both sides. He has expressed an opinion that the Indian found it necessary to discard the tool/weapon, that scratching it with hash marks destroys the power that was bestowed in the tool/weapon. Anyone esp. an enemy who might later find it then could not use it. In your case the hack marks is a continuous 'line' etched around and around, like he is 'tying' a package so that could not be opened. I'm sure there are other opinions ----Jim Leslie.

Seems plausible...any evidence that was what was meant by the markings?

Jack Burgess

2 files to attach ...mesopinion

Possible Mayan Stone

Found sticking out of the ground in a wooded area in W. Virginia about year 2000 by people from Ohio. Shape is a round stone wheel with markings on both sides. Weight is about 50 pounds, about 10/11 inches in diameter and 3+ inches thick. One side has a serpent inside a $\frac{3}{4}$ crescent Moon.

Other side has rays from the Sun with dots and bars like the Mayan numbering system and in a repetitive pattern of 3.

It does not look very weathered, but should be very easy for anyone knowing Mayan to read.
John Payne

2 files to attach...possiblemayanstone