

510.

ARCHAEOLOGY IN SOUTHERN ALBERTA:  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS AT  
WRITING-ON-STONE, ALBERTA

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angle of  $12^{\circ}$  towards the flood plain. The more or less level ground extends for some 30 m east-west along the cliffs, permitting the panel 6-7 area to be one of the more favourable areas for habitation at Dg0v-2. The area was sampled with four test pits, one 2.5 x 0.5 m trench (Unit 1), one 2.0 x 0.5 m trench (Unit 4), one 1 x 2 m pit (Unit 2) and one 2 x 2 m pit (Unit 3).

The panel 6-7 area was one of the few locales in the park where cultural material was collected on the surface. A total of six glass beads and one chert flake were found on the loose sandy deposits below the panels. Nine additional beads were recovered from the uppermost 10 cm of the excavations. Lithic and faunal remains were recovered from levels one through ten inclusive. Despite this vertical spread, there is evidence that much of the cultural material is representative of only a few separate occupations. In Unit 3, a black quartzite core fragment from Level 2 fits with a fragment recovered from the bottom of Level 6 at 60 cm b.s. (Figure 18a). Thus, materials between Levels 2-7 are probably part of a contemporaneous assemblage which includes the bulk of the recovered material. The surface and near-surface beads indicate a second, historic, occupation. Finally, between 90 and 100 cm b.s., excavation Units 1, 2 and 3 yielded slim evidence of an earlier, ill-defined occupation represented by two flaked cobbles and a cortical flake. However, because of the scarcity of material and the evidence provided by the flake core of considerable vertical separation of contemporaneous material, all the artifacts recovered from panels 6 and 7 are here presented as a single sample. In total, only 39 lithic pieces were recovered, nearly half of which (N=17) were fire cracked rocks. The remainder of the lithic sample consisted of flakes, points, core fragments and flaked cobbles. Faunal material was abundant but could not always be linked with the prehistoric occupation.

#### ✓ Glass Artifacts:

Fifteen complete glass beads were recovered from the surface and Level 1 at panels 6 and 7. All the beads are the small "seed" bead variety (Figure 20b). Light blue is the dominant colour (N=8), followed by white and brown (N=3 each); there is a single red bead. The beads are cylindrical or tubular in shape. The outside diameter ranges from 2.0 to

4.0 mm with a mean of 3.10. The length ranges from 1.5 to 3.5 mm with a mean of 2.34. The central perforations are all nearly 1.0 mm.

Lithic Artifacts:

Projectile Points: Of the 23 pieces of flaked stone, 3 (13%) are classed as projectile points.

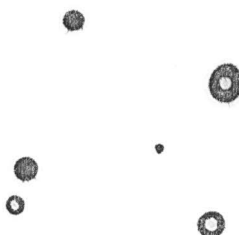
Dg0v-2-11 (Figure 15e)

Length	14.1
Width	4.8, occurs at shoulders
Thickness	3.0
Cross-Section	
Transverse	asymmetrically biconvex
Longitudinal	asymmetrically biconvex
Weight	0.37 g
Material	chalcedony
Colour	brown

Description: This very small corner-notched point is complete. The tip is blunt with an angle of about  $75^{\circ}$ . The blade is ovate in form and widest at the shoulders. The blade edges are symmetrical, except that one edge is longer than the other (8.2 vs 9.9 mm). The blade is 8.2 mm long, 58% of the total point length. The blade edges are smooth, but fine, parallel, pressure flaking near the tip of the blade has produced a serrated edge. Both faces of the point are completely worked by pressure flaking. The blade edges are not ground. The shoulders are roughly rounded and form an obtuse angle with the notches. The notches are broad, shallow, crescent-shaped and perpendicular to the long axis. One notch is fairly distinct: 1.1 mm deep and 3.8 mm wide. The other notch grades into the stem and base. Both notches are well ground. The point is 6.9 mm wide at the inside of the notches. The notch/stem angle is obtuse. The stem is slightly expanding and well ground. The base is asymmetrically convex with a serrated edge caused by the alternating pressure flake scars directed upward from the base. No basal grinding is evident. The size of the point suggests it was designed for an arrow shaft.



a



b

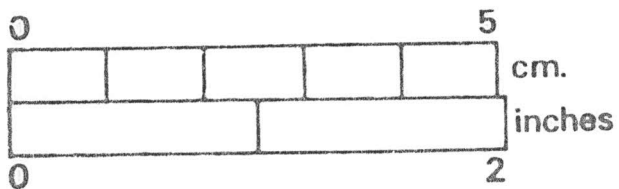


Figure 20: a, 45.75 calibre bullets from Dg0v-76; b, sample of glass beads from Dg0v-2, Panel 6-7.