

## REPORTS

### Metal Ceremonial Tablet Reported in Naples

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Ceremonial tablet MT#53 (Figure 1) is here added to the inventory of such objects found in Florida. The tablet is made of what appears to be thin sheet silver and is 33.5 mm long, 21.3 mm at its greatest width, which is at the lateral projections, 19.5 mm wide above those projections, and 21.4 mm at the widest part of the lower section. Thickness is about a half millimeter.

The upper part of the tablet's obverse side shows distinct incisions, but the lower portion is partially covered with a patina that obscures the decoration. The reverse is blank and covered with a patina broken only by what looks like a crack at its waist, where the tablet has been bent. The reverse of the object is slightly concave. The tablet is pierced at the top by what apparently had been a suspension hole, the upper side of which has been worn through.

Of the figures illustrated in a comprehensive running catalog of such tablets (Allerton et al. 1984; Luer 1994), this specimen most closely resembles MT#8 found at the Thomas Mound (8HI1) in Hillsborough County, although it lacks that specimen's detailing at the waist and is notably smaller (cf. Allerton et al. 1984: Figure 8a).

Presently, the tablet is in the possession of Clarence Lobenthal of Naples who told the author he located it with

a metal detector on a mound in Charlotte Harbor. From Alzheimer's Disease, he said he does not recall exactly where, nor when, he found it, although it was years ago.

### References Cited

- Allerton, David, George M. Luer, and Robert S. Carr  
1984 Ceremonial Tablets and Related Objects from Florida. *Florida Anthropologist* 37:5-54.
- Luer, George M.  
1994 A Third Ceremonial Tablet from the Goodnow Mound, Highlands County, Florida, with Notes on Some Peninsular Tribes and Other Tablets. *The Florida Anthropologist* 47:180-188.

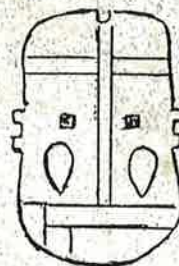


Figure 1. The newly reported ceremonial tablet has sharply defined engraving, but it is obscured in the lower right corner by a heavy patina. The patina-covered reverse has no visible design. Drawing by Jean Belknap.

### Paleoindian Projectile Point Recording Project: A Call for Data

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This paper is a plea to the avocational and professional archaeologists of Florida to participate in a Paleoindian and Early Archaic projectile point recording project. Such projects are underway in many states around the country,

and are proving to be a major source of information about early human settlement. Avocational archaeologists have made impressive contributions to these projects and in most states they have contributed by far the greatest quantity of information. For example, the oldest continuous Paleoindian projectile-point survey in the country was started in Virginia in the late 1940s by Ben C. McCary, an avocational archaeologist. McCary directed the Virginia survey for over 40 years, and he and his successors compiled information on almost 1000 fluted points (Johnson and Pearsall 1996; McCary 1984). Without question, the Virginia survey is the best Paleoindian projectile-point sample collected anywhere in the United States. It illustrates the positive and lasting contributions that can come from cooperation between avocational and professional archaeologists.

### An Appeal for Data

The primary goal of this project is the documentation of diagnostic Paleoindian and Early Archaic projectile points