

TECHNOLOGY OF MOUNT TAYLOR PERIOD
OCCUPATION, GROVES' ORANGE MIDDEN
(8VO2601), VOLUSIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

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350
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Sic ego componi versus in ossa velim

The technologies of ancient Florida are now silent, but they have left echoes of their production and use. These echoes are found in the many implements recovered from archaeological sites throughout the state. Studies of bone and shell implements have generally followed the pioneering work of Goggin (n.d.), Goggin and Sommer (1949), and Willey (1949a). These early investigations relied on artifact form to determine types, and more recent studies by Richardson and Pohl (1982) of the Granada site, Steinen (1971) of Ft. Center, Walker (1989, 1992) and Marquardt (1992) of the Caloosahatchee area have followed and extended the classes and types defined earlier. Walker (1989, 1992) and Marquardt (1992) have taken the first step beyond simple classification by incorporating aspects of material culture, ethnohistoric texts, and human behavior in their studies of southern Florida. The present study of native implements recovered from the waterlogged deposits of the Groves' Orange Midden (8VO2601), a component of the Old Enterprise Mound (8VO55), is an attempt to integrate artifact shape and wear patterns in analyzing and classifying artifacts. Based on wear patterns we have tried to develop divisions that reflect behavioral categories instead of the "natural kinds" suggested by media and shape alone. This type of analysis has allowed us to study the static material remains as a technological complex or system, with interrelated parts each relying on the others for their production and use. In the discussion below we attempt to show how one type of tool was used in producing others, the importance of debris, and the use of multicomponent or compound implements.

Methodology

Artifacts considered in this study have been recovered from the waterlogged deposits dating to Mount Taylor and Orange periods (c. 6,200 B.P. to 4,100 B.P.) at the Groves' site on and in Lake Monroe. Excavations occurred in 1989, 1992 and 1993. All bone and shell artifacts have been treated with PVA or B-72 resin to preserve surface integrity. Analysis of bone artifacts involved examination of artifact wear patterns, particularly those found on the tip and basal ends, and comparison with replicative studies conducted by Semenov

(1964), Campana (1989) and Newcomer (1974). Shell tools were examined in a similar fashion. A 10x magnifier was sufficient for detecting patterns of manufacture and use. Classification and implement complexes were developed from studies of form and wear pattern characteristics. Discussion of ceramic objects and miscellaneous items is included in this article to give the complete view of material culture from the Groves' site. Wooden artifacts and chipped stone artifacts are discussed by Wheeler and McGee (this issue), and Purdy (this issue).

Bone Artifact Types

Bone artifact types and complexes are summarized by stratigraphic zone in Table 1.

Textile and Leather Working Complex

Artifacts in this complex show evidence of use possibly relating to perforating some pliable material (i.e., leather) or the manipulation of fibers in weaving.

Splinter Awls (n=9, Figure 1). Splinter awls are formed from a fractured or split-out section of mammal long bone, with little other modification than that found at the working end. Two specimens from Lake Monroe are formed from the proximal end of a deer metapodial, a portion of bone generally discarded in the process of manufacturing finished long bone artifacts (see discussion of this form under debris). Another splinter awl is derived from a mammal rib. The diversity of skeletal elements utilized in the production of these splinter awls hints at their nature as expediency tools. Despite the diversity of forms encountered, all splinter awls have evidence of rotational wear, high polish and shouldering at the tip, indicating use as perforating tools (see Campana 1989:55). Goggin (1952:117) comments that splinter awls are common to the northern St. Johns area, with specimens occurring throughout the sequence. One specimen illustrated by Rouse (1951:227, Plate 5e) is similar to LM93-230-4 in its form and possible evidence of hafting. Analysis of awls from the Granada site (Richardson and Pohl 1982:112, 115) does not provide a distinction between splinter awls and those more finely finished examples. Richardson and Pohl (1982:115) suggest that awl wear patterns consist of "marks running