

Re: Ohio man finds 15,000-year-old flint spear tip

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- *From:* Melodious Thunk <thunk.melodious@xxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Fri, 14 Dec 2007 08:33:40 -0800 (PST)
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On Dec 13, 7:18 pm, Matt Giwer <jul...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

Melodious Thunk wrote:

On Dec 12, 7:02 pm, Matt Giwer <jul...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

Jack Linthicum wrote:

This is interesting. From Clovis-first and 12,000 years give or take we now can identify a spear point to 3,000 years earlier. Perhaps it had an inscription, in Chinese, "Made in 13,000 BC"

;-) Reminds me of the first arrowhead I found as a kid. "Dad, which Tribe is 'pat pend'?"

The date is probably based on the conjectured date of the extinction of the Mastodon or equivalently large game animals. The size of the point would indicate the size of the game. It probably could be as old as the oldest Clovis point found.

Is there literature that supports size of points varying by size of game? (It might be true of european technology, I don't know; I don't think it's true of North American technology.)

You don't use a .30-06 to hunt squirrels. Clearly a large point is going to be suitable to mount on a large haft and also not used for squirrels. There is no need for literature. It is the way things are. And if the weapon is over-matched to the game there is the secondary problem that smaller game is faster while the heavier weapon is always slower to use. Add to that practicality of making them. Three or four small points for small game against large ones for big game and finding straight enough lengths of tree branch in large size is harder than for

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smaller. It is a waste of effort to make the weapon too large.

At least in North America, the same little teeny arrowheads, & dart tips, were used whether hunting bison, elk, or deer... or Brits, Spaniards, & Frenc