



MHS Local Vocabulary List for Archaeology Terms

The bolded terms on this list may be used to catalog collections for deposit with MHS without submitting an AAT Candidate term form. Choose “Local” for the Descriptor Type with these terms.

VOCABULARY HELP:

http://www.getty.edu/research/conducting_research/vocabularies/aat/
<https://web.archive.org/web/20141020062005/http://www.tc.umn.edu:80/~bakk0029/MinLith/index.html>

1987 Justice, Noel A., *Stone Age Spear and Arrow points of the Midcontinental and Eastern United States*, Indiana University Press, Bloomington, Indiana.

Terms listed in **boldface** are **Local** vocabulary terms.

Terms listed in regular typeface are official AAT vocabulary and guide terms.

Format:

Use case as listed in the AAT

Use singular forms for nouns and –ed forms for verbs.

Term enclosed by “< >” are guide terms, **not** vocabulary terms, just headings.

“=” Indicates non-preferred variations; do not use **except** for the –ed forms listed above.

Object Facet

Components Hierarchy

component

<components by general context>

fastener

anchor (fastener)

anchor plate

hook anchor plate

nail

<nails by location or context>

shoe nail

screws

<screws by form>

<screws by form: head type>

cap screws

Phillips head screws

tang

hardware

<hardware by location or context>

furniture hardware

<components by specific context>



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architectural element
<surface elements and surface element components>
<surface element components>
glazing point
muntin
<container components>
closure
coves (closure)
canning seal
<**handles: container components**>
loop handle (container component)
strap handle
bodies (container components)
collars (container components)
finish (container component)
lips (container components)
beak
castellated lip
flattened lip
folded lip
notched lip
pinched lip
pointed lip
rolled lip
rounded lip
rim
channeled rim
collared rim
curved rim
direct rim
everted rim
galleried rims
inverted rim
s-rim
straight rim
string rim
vertical rim

Containers Hierarchy

container
<containers by form>
vessel
jar
canning jar



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= **fruit jar**
pot
pinch pot

Furnishings and Equipment

Costume

costume
<costume accessories>

tinkler

Tools and Equipment

equipment
<equipment by context>
<fishing and trapping tools and equipment>

net sinker

Recreational Artifacts

<recreational artifacts>
<recreational artifacts for noncompetitive activities>
toy (recreational artifact)
<toys by form>
toy automobile

Object Genre Hierarchy

<object genres>
<object genres by form>
<beads and sets of beads>
bead
<beads by form>
bugle bead
seed bead
wire-wound bead
<beads by function>
trade bead
cornaline d'aleppo
=Hudson's Bay bead

biface
final thinning stage biface
initial edging stage biface
primary thinning stage biface

core (object genre)

bipolar core
blade core
platform core

debitage
flake (object genre)



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bipolar flake
blade flake
 prismatic blade
decortication flake
 primary decortication flake
 secondary decortication flake
primary flake
secondary flake
thinning flake
 bifacial thinning flake
 =biface thinning flake
 primary thinning flake
 secondary thinning flake
 tertiary flake

microdebitage

shatter

fragment

base fragment

proximal fragment

medial fragment

distal fragment

tip fragment

sherd

 potsherd

base sherd

body sherd

neck sherd

 rim sherd

shoulder sherd

spall

uniface

denticulate

<object genres by material>

ceramic

 pottery (object genre)

 earthenware

 earthenware

 creamware

 faïence fine

 Queen's ware

 delftware

 faience (earthenware)

 lusterware



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maiolica
marbled ware
 agate ware
mocha ware
pearlware
redware
yellowware
stoneware
 ironstone (pottery)
whiteware
 electrical porcelain

Tools and Equipment Hierarchy

equipment
 <equipment by context>
 <animal equipment>
 horseshoe (animal equipment)
 ox shoe
 <equipment by process>
 <cutting equipment>
 <cutting tools>
 adze
 augers
 axe
 celt
 chisel
 chopper
 gouge
 graver
 knife (cutting tool)
 backed knives
 <flintknapping equipment>
 anvilstone
 flaker
 pressure flaker
 hammerstone
 <piercing tools>
 awl
 <shaping and guiding equipment>
 <shaping and guiding tools>
 mold
 blow-back mold
 dip mold
 full-size mold



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hinged mold

part-size mold

pattern mold

piece mold

poly-part mold

press mold

Ricketts mold

turn mold

=paste mold

waste mold

<surface working and finishing equipment>

<surface working and finishing tools and accessories>

abrader

scraper (finishing tool)

concave scraper

distolateral scraper

endscraper

humpback scraper

keeled scraper

sidescraper

spurred scraper

thumbnail scraper

Materials Facet

Materials Hierarchy

materials

<materials by composition>

<combination inorganic/organic material>

<combination inorganic/organic animal material>

bone

<bone by form>

antler

<tooth and tooth components

tooth

tusk

inorganic material

<clay and clay products>

<clay products>

<ceramic and ceramic products>

ceramic

biscuit

porcelain

<glass and glassmaking mixtures>

glass



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<glass by form>

sheet glass

=**flat glass**

mineral

galena

quartz

chalcedony

agate

Lake Superior agate

Gunflint silica

Kakabeka chert

jasper taconite

Tongue River silica

silicified wood

rock

igneous rock

<igneous rock by composition>

<igneous rock by composition: chemical>

acid igneous rock

felsite

anorthosite

metamorphic rock

quartzite

Baraboo quartzite

Barron quartzite

sedimentary rock

<sedimentary rock by composition>

argillaceous rock

argillite

chert

Burlington chert

Cedar Valley chert

Cobden Dongola chert

= **Cobden chert**

= **Cobden flint**

= **Dongola chert**

= **hornstone**

Cochrane chert

flint

Knife River flint

=**Knife River chalcedony**

Galena chert

Grand Meadow chert

Hudson Bay Lowland chert



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Moline chert
Prairie du Chien chert
Red River chert
Silurian chert
Swan River chert

claystone

marlstone

mudstone

pipestone

=*catlinite*

sandstone

<sandstone by composition>

<sandstone by composition: aggregate type>

siliceous sandstone

= orthoquartzite

= silica sandstone

Alma quartzite

=**Alma silicified sandstone**

Amherst sandstone

Aquia Creek sandstone

Dunville sandstone

Hixton quartzite

=**Hixton silicified sandstone**

silica (mineral)

taconite

<materials by function>

coating (material)

<coating by location or context>

glaze

ceramic glaze

<ceramic glaze by composition or origin>

alkaline glaze

Bristol glaze

celadon

lead glaze

mocha glaze

slip glaze

tin glaze

<materials by origin>

animal material

<animal material by form or function>

<skeleton and skeleton components>



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skeleton
sponge
<skeleton components>
broad bone
long bone
short bone
epiphysis
mandible
skull (skeleton component)
spicule
(**element name** – use as needed)

Activities Facet

Process and Techniques Hierarchy

<processes and techniques>
<processes and techniques by specific type>
<additive and joining processes and techniques>
alteration (process and technique)
=altered
reworking
=reworked
<surface covering processes and techniques>
coating (process)
slipping
=slipped
tempering (additive process)
=tempered (additive process)
<analysis and testing techniques>
soil flotation
<condition changing processes>
<surface or structural changes>
chipping
edge modification
=edge-modified
exfoliation
=exfoliated
cracking
fire cracking
=fire-cracked
<finishing and refinishing processes>
finishing (process)
smoothing
=smoothed
<image making processes and techniques>



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<printing and printing processes and techniques>

printing
transfer printing
= transfer-printed
flow blue

<processes and techniques by material>

<pottery techniques>

<pottery decorating techniques>

<**pottery decorating techniques: impressing**>

cord impressing
=cord-impressed
cord-wrapped stick impressing
=cord-wrapped stick-impressed
fabric impressing
=fabric-impressed
fingernail impressing
=fingernail-impressed
net impressing
=net-impressed
tool impressing
=tool-impressed

<**pottery decorating techniques: stamping**>

check stamping
comb stamping
=comb-stamped
dentate stamping
=dentate-stamped
drag stamping
=drag-stamped
ovoid stamping
=ovoid-stamped
punctuation
=puncated
reed stamping
=reed-stamped
rocker stamping

brushing (pottery decorating technique)
=brushed (pottery decorating technique)
channeling
=channeled
combing (pottery decorating technique)
=combed (pottery decorating technique)
trailing (pottery decorating technique)



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=trailed (pottery decorating technique)

<pottery forming techniques>

coiling

paddle and anvil method

cord marking

=*cord-marked*

smoothed cordmarking

=**smoothed-over-cordmarked**

pinching

=**pinched**

slab method

slip casting

throwing (pottery technique)

<physicochemical processes>

burning

=burned

calcination

=**calcined**

cooking

=**cooked**

canning

=**canned**

<temperature-related physicochemical processes>

heating

heat treating

=**heat-treated**

thermally altering

=**thermally-altered**

<subtractive processes and techniques>

flintknapping

=**flintknapped**

bifacial reduction

bi-polar reduction

blade/core reduction

retouching (flintknapping)

=**retouched (flintknapped)**

pecking

=**pecked**

<surface marking processes and techniques>

impressing

incising

=**incised**

sponging

=**sponged**



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stamping (marking)

blind stamping

Physical Attributes Facet

Attributes and Properties Hierarchy

<attributes and properties>

<attributes and properties by specific type>

<fabrication attributes>

bifacial

hand-painted

handmade

unifacial

<fabrication attributes: ceramics>

fiber-tempered

grit-tempered

grit and sand-tempered

grog-tempered

limestone-tempered

sand-tempered

shell-tempered

<form attributes>

flat (form attributes)

shape

curved

lanceolate

pointed

round (shape)

triangular

<shape: projectile points>

corner-notched

side-notched

stemmed

<shape: vessels>

conoidal

globular

sub-conoidal

size (extent)

<size by specific type>

large

medium

small

<physical properties>

specific gravity

heavy fraction

light fraction



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<positional attributes>

<positional attributes by relative position>

cortical

Conditions and Effects

<conditions and effects>

gnawing

=gnawed

solarization (condition)

= **solarized (condition)**

cut marks

saw marks

seam marks

spalling

=**spalled**

wear

=worn

microwear

water wear

=**water-worn**

Design Elements Hierarchy

<design elements>

<ornament areas>

borders (ornament areas)

fields

medallions (ornament areas)

zones (ornament areas)

patterns (design elements)

<patterns by specific type>

<edging and surfacing patterns>

scalloping

shell-edge

Associated Concepts Facet

Associated Concepts

<functional concepts>

use

=utilized



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Styles and Periods Facet

Styles and Periods Hierarchy

<styles and periods by region>

<The Americas>

<**Pre-Contact**> (change from Pre-Columbian)

< **Pre - Contact** North American styles and periods>

< **Pre - Contact** North American styles>

< **Pre - Contact** eastern North American styles>

<**Pre-Contact eastern North American ceramic styles**>

Allamakee Trailed

Blackduck

Blue Earth

Brainerd

Cambria

Clam River

Fox Lake

Great Oasis

Havana

Howard Lake

Hopewell

Kathio

Lake Benton

La Moille

Laurel

Malmo

Marion

Ogechie

Onamia

Orr

Sandy Lake

Silvernail

Snake River

Sorg

St. Croix

Vach

Sandy Lake

<**Pre-Contact North American projectile point styles**>

Adena Stemmed

Agate Basin

Angostura

Avonlea

Benton Stemmed

Brewerton Corner Notched



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Brewerton Eared-Triangle
Brewerton Side Notched
Bottleneck Stemmed
Browns Valley
Buck Creek Barbed
Cahokia
Charleston Corner Notched
Chesser Notched
Clovis
Cumberland
Cumberland Fluted
Dalton
Dalton
Delhi
Durst Stemmed
Dickson Contracting Stemmed
Eden
Etley
Eva I
Eva II
Folsom
Fort Ancient
Fox Valley Truncated Barb
Godar
Graham Cave Side Notched
Grant Side-Notched
Hardin Barbed
Hell Gap
Hi-Lo
Jack's Reef Corner Notched
Karnak Stemmed
Kessell Side Notched
Kirk Corner Notched
Kirk Stemmed
Klunk Side Notched
Koster Corner Notched
Kramer Stemmed
LeCroy Bifurcated
Ledbetter Stemmed
Little Bear Creek



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Lomoka
Lost Lake
Lowe Flared Base
MacCorkle Stemmed
Madison Side Notched
Madison Trinagular
Matanzas Side Notched
Morris
Motley
Nebo Hill Lanceolate
Norton
Osceloa
Pelican Lake
Pickwick
Plainview
Plano
Preston Corner Notched
Quad
Racson Notched
Raddatz Side Notched
Robbins
Scallorn
Scottsbluff
Sedalia Lanceolate
Snyders
St. Albans Side Notched
St. Charles
Stanley Stemmed
Steuben Expanding Stemmed
Table Rock Corner Notched
Table Rock Stemmed
Thebes
Turkey-tail
Vosburg Corner Notched
Waubesa Contracting Stem