

Deciphering the Codebook

Columns:

The columns that are referred to in the codebook are not the groupings of numbers, but rather a single character in a line. For example, the line in the catalog that appears as: [F14W2 06428 05472 B 007.0 O 01122] can be interpreted as:

Column	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Catalog Entry	F	1	4	W	2							0	6	4	2

Column	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Catalog Entry	8			0	5	4	7	2		B		0	0	7	.

Column	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39
Catalog Entry	0		O		0	1	1	2	2

Meanings of Columns

Columns 1-5: Provenience

Column 1 indicates the 5m square unit in which the artifacts are found. The letters assigned are B – I.

Columns 2 & 3 indicates the 1m square within the 5m square in which the artifact was found. It will be assigned a number between 1 and 25.

Column 4 indicates the quad within the 1m square where the artifact was found. The quads are North, East, South, and West, represented by N, E, S, & W

Column 5 indicates the depth level in which the artifact was found.

**See Grid Sheet for diagram*

Columns 6-8

These columns may or not be used. They contain additional information about the location. The codes used in this section are not completely deciphered, but we do know the following:

B = backfill

F = floor

R = roof

Columns 9-11

These columns are left blank

Columns 12-16

This is the 5 digit catalog number

Columns 17-18

Blank

Columns 19-23 (not used in “Type” catalog)

These columns denote the lot or bag from which the artifact was processed.

Column 24

Blank

Column 25

This denotes the material type

B = basalt

C = chert

O = obsidian

Column 26

Blank

Columns 27-31

These columns may indicate the item's weight

Column 32

Blank

Column 33

Unknown

Column 34

Blank

Columns 35-39

These columns represent the artifact type as outlined in Aigner's "Hierarchy of Lithic Technology" cataloging system (Aigner 1978: 48-61; Laughlin and Aigner 1966). (see next section for details)

Columns 40-80

This space is used for comments, usually the initials of the person who excavated the square, the date of excavation, and other information useful for analysis.

Coding System for the Hierarchy of Lithic Technology

Origin of material

0XXXX – cores, and core-derived materials (flake and blade blanks)

1XXXX – secondary derived flakes and chips of small size (non-blanks)

2XXXX – tools not made from cores, or primary blade or flake blanks (pebbles)

Flake differentiations

X1XXX – blade materials

X2XXX – cortex flakes (50% or more of dorsal surface as cortex)

X3XXX – platform/tablet flakes

X4XXX – ridged flakes

X5XXX – irregular flakes (non-ridged, non-blade-like)

X6XXX – cores

X7XXX – cores with retouch

X8XXX – non core debris

X9XXX – non core tools (pumice, rubbing or smoothing stones)

Descriptions of blades and flakes

XX1XX – unifacially, marginally retouched blanks

XX2XX – utilized flake

XX3XX – blades which show neither retouch nor traces of use

XX4XX – pointed blades (rarely used)

XX5XX – nonpointed blades with side retouch (rarely used)

Major blank shapes and major features of their retouch and use alterations

XXX1X – pointed tools on whole and nearly whole blades with (at least) use at the point

- XXX2X – Unpointed tools on whole or nearly whole blades with marginal retouch/use
- XXX3X – fragment tools made on transverse segments or non-regular flakes produced by controlled breakage -- snapping
- XXX4X – Unaltered transverse segments
- XXX5X – tools made on non regular blanks
- XXX6X – tools made on snapped blades
- XXX7X – tools made on snapped cortex flakes
- XXX8X – tools made on core fragments
- XXX9X – unassignable

Shape

- XXXX1 – symmetrical point
- XXXX2 – asymmetrical and thin dorso-ventrally
- XXXX3 – asymmetrical and thick dorso-ventrally
- XXXX4 – two major cutting edges
- XXXX5 – one major cutting edge
- XXXX6 – other blades with less extensive retouch
- XXXX7 – round and ovoid with retouch
- XXXX8 – round and rectanguloid with retouch
- XXXX9 – round and rectanguloid with less than 95% of the edge retouched

Example

- 04350 – Core derived, ridged flake, unaltered, made from a non-regular blank