Land of Extremes

Local arrow straightener collection a ‘true find’

BY NEAL V. HITCH

Early human adaptation to the desert takes many forms. Not only do you have to know what tools you need, but you have to know how to make them. The knowledge of adaptation was constantly changing, evidence of these changes are often present in archaeological sites. The technology of the bow and arrow is a relatively new adaptation, coming into Southern California around A.D. 400 and in wide use by A.D. 900.

One of the most significant parts of the Imperial Valley College Archaeology Collection is the assortment of 29 arrow shaft straighteners. Throughout the Southwest, arrow shaft straighteners were stone tools used in the production and maintenance of arrows. The tool was a flat or rounded stone, with a small groove carved out of the center. The stone would be heated in a fire, then a wooden arrow shaft would be run through the groove with a combination of heat and pressure used to straighten the shaft.

The collection that will be on display at the Imperial Valley Desert Museum is unique because of the number of straighteners with multiple grooves and incised embellishments that we have. Eleven are incised, or cut with patterns of lines for decorative purposes. In the museum’s collection there are only a small number of unusual straighteners with two or even three grooves. This understanding today through science, Native Americans understood by observation and practical application.

Often the wood found to make arrows was not straight enough in its natural form to fly true. Arrow shafts that have been straightened will vary when exposed to moisture and humidity changes, which would happen when travelling from the desert to the mountains. A hunter could make a large number of arrow shafts at once, while out hunting.

Eventually, he bought land and developed a ranch northeast of the city. He developed relationships with the Campo Reservation to the Smithsonian, and offer a direct comparison to a known ethnographic collection. These arrow shaft straighteners make our collection significant because they offer a date and place for which to evaluate individual tools at the museum. Our collection is also much more accessible to the people of the Imperial Valley.

Science of steatite, also called soapstone

Talc is the softest known mineral, made largely of talc. Talc is a metamorphic rock made largely of talc. Talc is a metamorphic rock made largely of talc. It is often found at the Channel Islands.

Talc is formed through science, Native Americans understood by observation and practical application. Today it is used in kitchens and bathrooms across the world in tiles, stoves, counter tops, and electrical panels. Talc is formed through science, Native Americans understood by observation and practical application.

One of the most significant parts of the Imperial Valley College Archaeology Collection is the assortment of 29 arrow shaft straighteners. Throughout the Southwest, arrow shaft straighteners were stone tools used in the production and maintenance of arrows. The tool was a flat or rounded stone, with a small groove carved out of the center. The stone would be heated in a fire, then a wooden arrow shaft would be run through the groove with a combination of heat and pressure used to straighten the shaft.

The collection that will be on display at the Imperial Valley Desert Museum is unique because of the number of straighteners with multiple grooves and incised embellishments that we have. Eleven are incised, or cut with patterns of lines for decorative purposes. In the museum’s collection there are only a small number of unusual straighteners with two or even three grooves. This understanding today through science, Native Americans understood by observation and practical application.

Often the wood found to make arrows was not straight enough in its natural form to fly true. Arrow shafts that have been straightened will vary when exposed to moisture and humidity changes, which would happen when travelling from the desert to the mountains. A hunter could make a large number of arrow shafts at once, while out hunting.

Eventually, he bought land and developed a ranch northeast of the city. He developed relationships with the Campo Reservation to the Smithsonian, and offer a direct comparison to a known ethnographic collection. These arrow shaft straighteners make our collection significant because they offer a date and place for which to evaluate individual tools at the museum. Our collection is also much more accessible to the people of the Imperial Valley.

Science of steatite, also called soapstone

Talc is the softest known mineral, made largely of talc. Talc is a metamorphic rock made largely of talc. It is often found at the Channel Islands.

Talc is formed through science, Native Americans understood by observation and practical application. Today it is used in kitchens and bathrooms across the world in tiles, stoves, counter tops, and electrical panels. Talc is formed through science, Native Americans understood by observation and practical application.

Not only do you have to know what tools you need, but you have to know how to make them. The knowledge of adaptation was constantly changing, evidence of these changes are often present in archaeological sites. The technology of the bow and arrow is a relatively new adaptation, coming into Southern California around A.D. 400 and in wide use by A.D. 900.

One of the most significant parts of the Imperial Valley College Archaeology Collection is the assortment of 29 arrow shaft straighteners. Throughout the Southwest, arrow shaft straighteners were stone tools used in the production and maintenance of arrows. The tool was a flat or rounded stone, with a small groove carved out of the center. The stone would be heated in a fire, then a wooden arrow shaft would be run through the groove with a combination of heat and pressure used to straighten the shaft.

The collection that will be on display at the Imperial Valley Desert Museum is unique because of the number of straighteners with multiple grooves and incised embellishments that we have. Eleven are incised, or cut with patterns of lines for decorative purposes. In the museum’s collection there are only a small number of unusual straighteners with two or even three grooves. This understanding today through science, Native Americans understood by observation and practical application.

Often the wood found to make arrows was not straight enough in its natural form to fly true. Arrow shafts that have been straightened will vary when exposed to moisture and humidity changes, which would happen when travelling from the desert to the mountains. A hunter could make a large number of arrow shafts at once, while out hunting.

Eventually, he bought land and developed a ranch northeast of the city. He developed relationships with the Campo Reservation to the Smithsonian, and offer a direct comparison to a known ethnographic collection. These arrow shaft straighteners make our collection significant because they offer a date and place for which to evaluate individual tools at the museum. Our collection is also much more accessible to the people of the Imperial Valley.

Science of steatite, also called soapstone

Talc is the softest known mineral, made largely of talc. Talc is a metamorphic rock made largely of talc. It is often found at the Channel Islands.

Talc is formed through science, Native Americans understood by observation and practical application. Today it is used in kitchens and bathrooms across the world in tiles, stoves, counter tops, and electrical panels. Talc is formed through science, Native Americans understood by observation and practical application.

Not only do you have to know what tools you need, but you have to know how to make them. The knowledge of adaptation was constantly changing, evidence of these changes are often present in archaeological sites. The technology of the bow and arrow is a relatively new adaptation, coming into Southern California around A.D. 400 and in wide use by A.D. 900.