

# The Davistown Museum

## Native American Artifacts: Special Collections

In addition to the numerous Native American artifacts collected by The Davistown Museum during the last three decades, the museum has also been able to purchase three intact collections of Native American artifacts. The first collection is the Cohasset Hoard of artifacts purchased in the early 1990s. Because the artifacts in this collection come from many different locations in New England as well as from other locations, the Cohasset Hoard is not listed specifically as a separate collection, but is included in our general inventory of Native American artifacts. Because the other two collections, the Coffin Stream Assemblage and the Wapanucket 8 Hoard were collected in a specific location, by a specific person or persons, they are listed separately as special collections.

### Coffin Stream Assemblage

Antonio Possante and family maintained a market garden at the end of Coffin St. in West Newbury at the intersection of River Rd. across the Merrimac River from the Judy Kimble farm in the Rocks Village section of East Haverhill. All of the cache of tools to be installed in The Davistown Museum was collected by family members over a period of 75 years. All of the tools in the collection with two exceptions were found within a small area bordering the Coffin Stream. These stone tools were often turned up during cultivation of the family's market garden; newly discovered specimens were carefully collected and added to the existing collection on an annual basis. Only one knife and a mortar and pestle were located further up the shore of the Merrimac River. The collection eventually became the property of Maurice Burnham of Milton, NH, who has generously made them available for installation and display at the Museum. Maurice also has made available to the museum a large mortar found along the Salmon Falls River near Lebanon, Maine, by his father many decades ago. This mortar, probably used for grinding corn, has been incorporated into the Coffin Stream Assemblage display. The Davistown Museum has been the fortunate recipient of a grant from MBNA to install this assemblage in a small room adjacent to the main hall of the museum.

Coffin Stream Assemblage essays: <http://www.davistownmuseum.org/infoCoffinStream.html>

Status Location

### Native American Artifacts I - Archaic Period

#### *Stone Tools*

071003NA33 **adz**

DTM CSA-shelf 1

Stone, 11.5 cm x 4 cm, unknown date.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/071003na33.jpg>

071003NA35 **Ax**

DTM CSA-shelf 1

Stone, 16 cm x 7.5 cm, unknown date.

071003NA29 **Cores (3)**

DTM CSA-shelf 1

Stone, 9 cm x 11 cm; 7 cm x 6 cm; 8 cm x 7 cm, Unknown date.

These stone flakes are a by product of the flaked stone tool industry.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/071003na29.jpg>

071003NA32 **Gouges (3)**

DTM CSA-shelf 1

Stone, 8.5 cm x 3.5 cm; 21 cm x 8 cm; 12 cm x 9 cm, archaic.

One gouge is a quarter-channel and another is full.

[http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/071003na32\\_p1.jpg](http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/071003na32_p1.jpg)

[http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/071003na32\\_p2.jpg](http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/071003na32_p2.jpg)

071003NA30 **Hammer stones (3)**

DTM CSA-shelf 1

Granite, 8 cm x 7 cm; 6 cm x 5.5 cm; 6 cm x 4 cm, Unknown date.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/071003na30.jpg>

071003NA36 **Mortar and pestle**

DTM CSA-shelf 1

Stone, 48 cm x 48 cm x 14 cm, unknown date.

This item is from Salmon Falls River, Lebanon, Maine.

## Davistown Museum Native American Artifacts

Coffin Stream Assemblage

### 071003NA31 Plummet

Status Location  
DTM CSA-shelf 1

Stone, 14 cm x 7.5 cm, archaic.  
Used for a net weight when fishing.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/071003na31.jpg>

### 071003NA17 Projectile point

DTM CSA-shelf 1

Stone, 6 cm x 3 cm, middle archaic.  
A "stark" projectile point, probably the oldest one in the Coffin Steam Assemblage (6,000 to 8,000 years old). Points like this are rare in Maine.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/071003na17.jpg>

### 071003NA19 Projectile point

DTM CSA-shelf 1

Stone, 5 cm x 3 cm, late archaic.  
A large spear point.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/071003na19.jpg>

### 071003NA21 Projectile point

DTM CSA-shelf 1

Stone, 5 cm x 2 cm, middle archaic.  
A side notch spear point.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/071003na21.jpg>

### 071003NA18 Projectile points (2)

DTM CSA-shelf 1

Stone, 5 cm x 1.5 cm; 2 cm x 2 cm.  
Both are "Squibnocket" small stemmed points.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/071003na18.jpg>

### 071003NA22 Projectile points (3)

DTM CSA-shelf 1

Stone, 5 cm x 2 cm; 6 cm x 3.5 cm; 7 cm x 3 cm, late archaic.  
Large sized spear points with stems, AKA "Susquehanna".

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/071003na22.jpg>

### 071003NA34 Whetstone

DTM CSA-shelf 1

Stone, 10 cm x 3 cm, unknown date.  
Whetstones are used for "whetting" or sharpening a tool by rubbing it against the stone.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/071003na34.jpg>

### 071003NA42 Whetstone and abrader

DTM CSA-shelf 1

Stone, 22 cm x 5 cm; 13 cm x 5 cm, unknown date.

## Native American Artifacts II - Ceramic Period

### *Ceramics*

#### 070303NA8 Ceramic shard

DTM CSA-shelf 2

Clay, 2.5 cm x 2.75 cm.  
It has a debitage fabric impressed decoration.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/070303na8.jpg>

#### 070303NA7 Ceramic shard

DTM CSA-shelf 2

Clay, 2 cm x 1.5 cm.  
It has a debitage fabric impressed decoration.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/070303na7.jpg>

## Davistown Museum Native American Artifacts

Coffin Stream Assemblage

### 070303NA10 Ceramic shard

Clay, 3 cm x 1.5 cm.

Debitage undecorated (smaller).

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/070303na10.jpg>

Status Location  
DTM CSA-shelf 2

### 070303NA9 Ceramic shard

Clay, 3 cm x 3 cm.

Debitage undecorated (larger).

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/070303na9.jpg>

DTM CSA-shelf 2

## Stone Tools

### 071003NA20 Projectile point

Stone, 6 cm x 1.5 cm.

An "Orient fishtail" spear point. Points like this are not common in Maine.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/071003na20.jpg>

DTM CSA-shelf 1

### 071003NA26 Projectile points (3)

Stone, 5 cm x 2cm; 4.5 cm x 2 cm; 4.5 cm x 2 cm, early ceramic.

These are side notched points.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/071003na26.jpg>

DTM CSA-shelf 1

### 071003NA23 Projectile points (3)

Stone, 6 cm x 2.5 cm; 5.5 cm x 2.5 cm; 4 cm x 2.5 cm, early ceramic.

These are "contracting stem points."

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/071003na23.jpg>

DTM CSA-shelf 1

### 071003NA25 Projectile points (3)

Stone, 4 cm x 2.5 cm; 4 cm x 4 cm; 4.5 cm x 3 cm, mid to late ceramic.

These are corner notched projectile points similar to "Jack's reef corner notched points."

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/071003na25.jpg>

DTM CSA-shelf 1

### 071003NA27 Projectile points (4)

Stone, 3.5 cm x 3 cm; 3 cm x 2 cm; 3 cm x 3 cm; 3.5 cm x 2.5 cm, late ceramic.

These are "Levanna" arrow points (triangular). This type of point is common in southern Maine.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/071003na27.jpg>

DTM CSA-shelf 1

### 071003NA24 Projectile points (4)

Stone, 6 cm x 3 cm; 5 cm x 2.5 cm; 3 cm x 1.5 cm; 4 cm x 2 cm, late ceramic.

These are corner notched "Jack's reef pentagonal points."

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/071003na24.jpg>

DTM CSA-shelf 1

### 071003NA28 Scrapers (3)

Stone, 3.5 cm x 3.5 cm; 2.5 cm x 1.5 cm; 2.5 cm x 2 cm.

These are "Thumbnail" scrapers.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/071003na28.jpg>

DTM CSA-shelf 1

## Native American Artifacts III - Historic Period

## Stone Tools

### 071003NA37 Miscellaneous biface fragments (18)

Stone, miscellaneous sizes, unknown date.

DTM CSA-shelf 1

**Davistown Museum Native American Artifacts**

Coffin Stream Assemblage

071003NA38 **Miscellaneous biface fragments (26)**

Status Location  
DTM CSA-  
shelf 1

Stone, miscellaneous sizes, unknown date.  
These are displayed in the lot box.

**Native American Artifacts IV - 20th Century**

***Stone Tools***

071003NA15 **Chopper stone**

DTM CSA-  
shelf 1

Stone, 13 cm x 11 cm.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/071003na15.jpg>

071003NA16 **Projectile points (6)**

DTM CSA-  
shelf 1

Stone, 3 cm to 8 cm long.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/071003na16.jpg>