Eubanks Collection

Arrow, Dart and Fragmented Projectile Points

Found Within the Lower Rio Grande Valley Region

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Community Historical Archaeology Project with Schools

University of Texas – Pan American

Edinburg, TX

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OUR GOAL

Our goal at the CHAPS Program is to identify evidence of human occupation for the past 10,000 years of the Rio Grande Valley region. This entails photographing, describing and sometimes drawing or casting projectile points and establishing their date within known typologies, identifying the stone or lithic source materials for the points and locating their place of discovery. With the permission of the "finder" and the landowner, we will record sites with the Texas Historical Commission to ensure information on the sites is preserved for future generations. Information gleaned from these descriptive endeavors will be used for scholarly research purposes. All site locations will be kept confidential per the guidelines established by the State of Texas and the larger code of ethics adhered to by the Register of Professional Archaeologists.

SITE LOCATIONS

There are two site locations for this project. One is found at the Kenneth and Irene Eubanks homestead on Eubanks Road in Edinburg, Texas. The other site is owned by the Eubanks' son, Thomas Eubanks, and is located at 18460 Hoehn Road in Edinburg, Texas. According to Thomas Eubanks, most of the points in his collection were found within a 1/8 mile radius in front of his parents' home (center point being the mailbox in front of the house). While we are uncertain about the exact location for each point found and from which site they were found, we are certain that they are prehistoric and historic archaeological artifacts that date back to the Early Archaic period between 5,500 and 8,000 years ago.

LOCATION COORDINATES

Kenneth and Irene Eubanks property at 17307 Eubanks Road, Edinburg, TX 78541

Latitude: 26° 21° 35.21" N

Longitude 98° 12'21.10" W

Elevation 32 Meters (104 Feet) above Sea Level

Google Earth image of Kenneth and Irene Eubanks' property at 17307 Eubanks Road, Edinburg, TX

Thomas Eubanks property at 18460 Hoehn Road, Edinburg, TX 78541

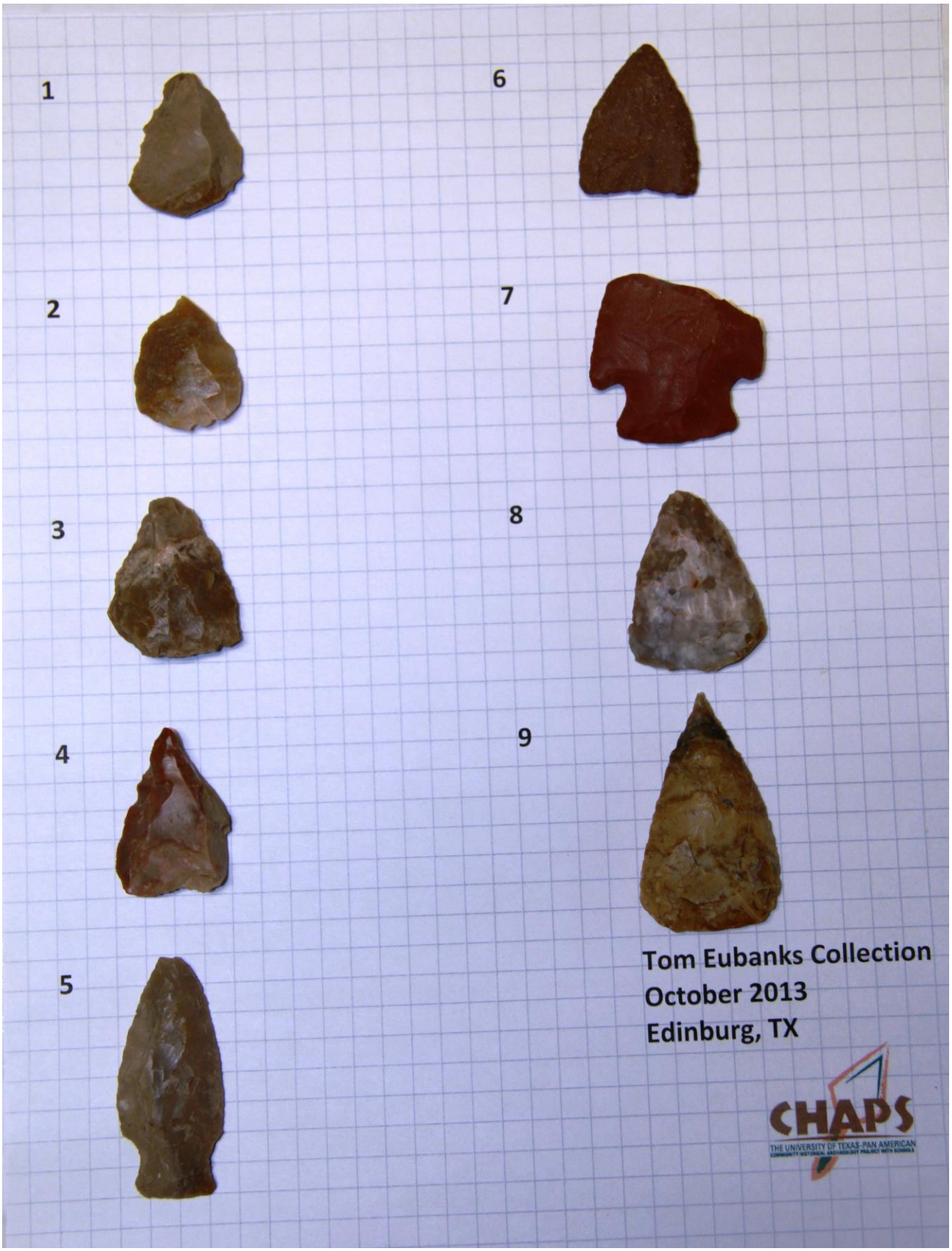
Latitude: 26°22’18.47” N

Longitude: 98°12’32.67” W

Elevation 31 Meters (102 Feet) above sea level

Google Earth image of Tom Eubanks’ property at 18460 Hoehn Road, Edinburg, TX

Proximity of Kenneth Eubanks' home on Eubanks Road and Thomas Eubanks' home on Hoehn Road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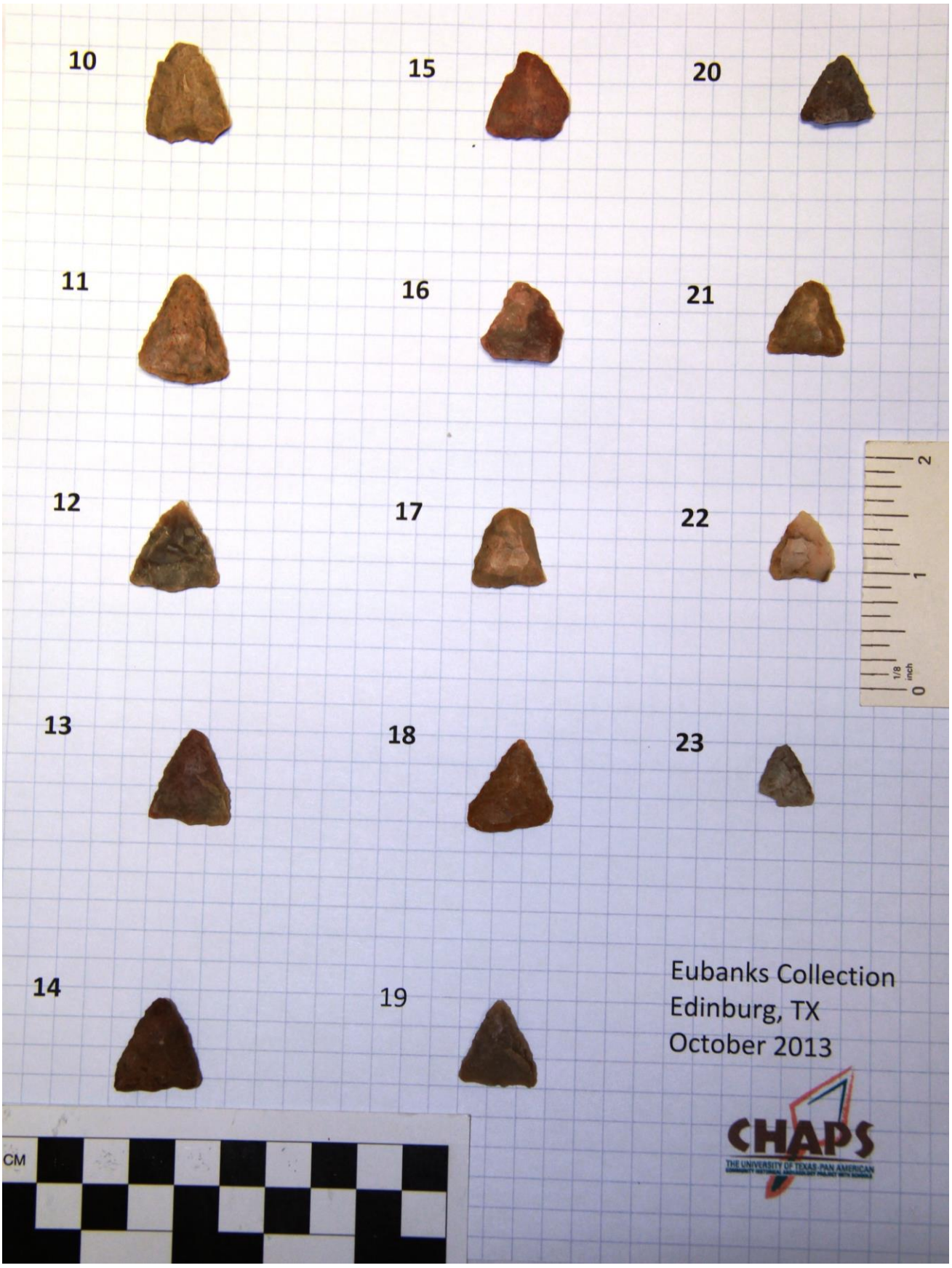
Tom Eubanks Collection
October 2013
Edinburg, TX
CHAPS
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS-PAN AMERICAN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Eubanks Collection
Edinburg, TX
October 2013
CHAPS
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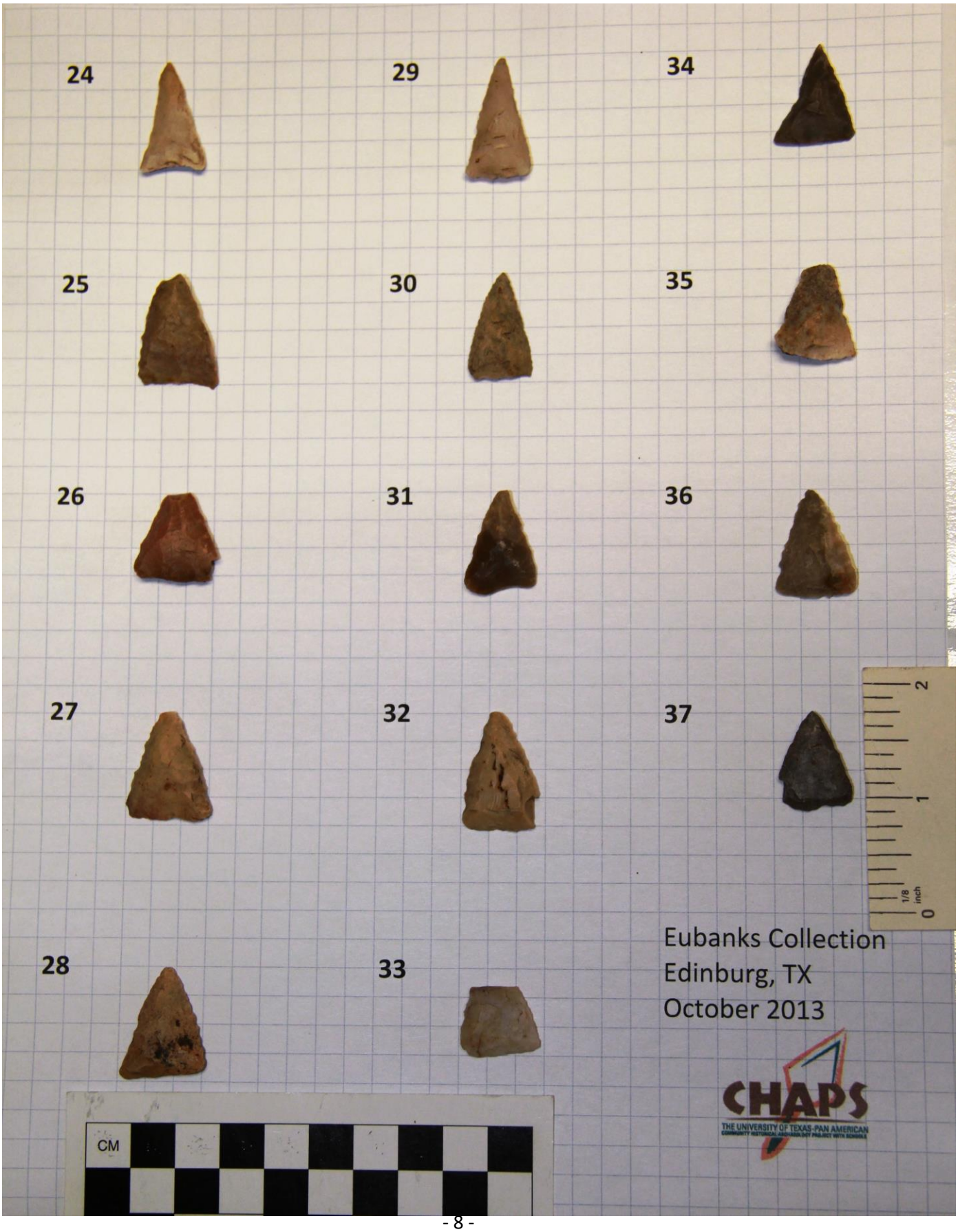
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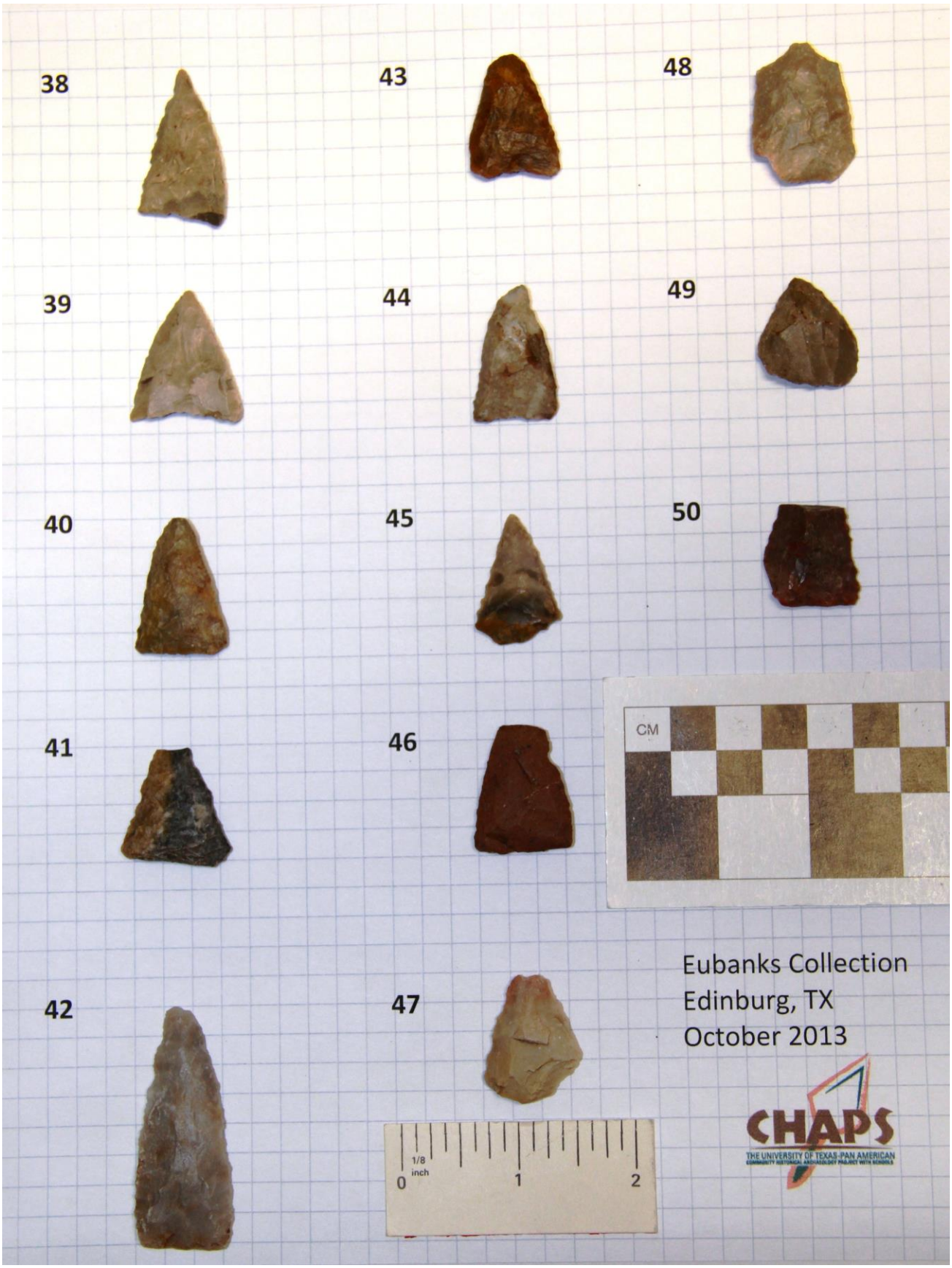
Eubanks Collection
Edinburg, TX
October 2013
CHAPS
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS-PAN AMERICAN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Eubanks Collection
Edinburg, TX
October 2013
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THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS-PAN AMERICAN
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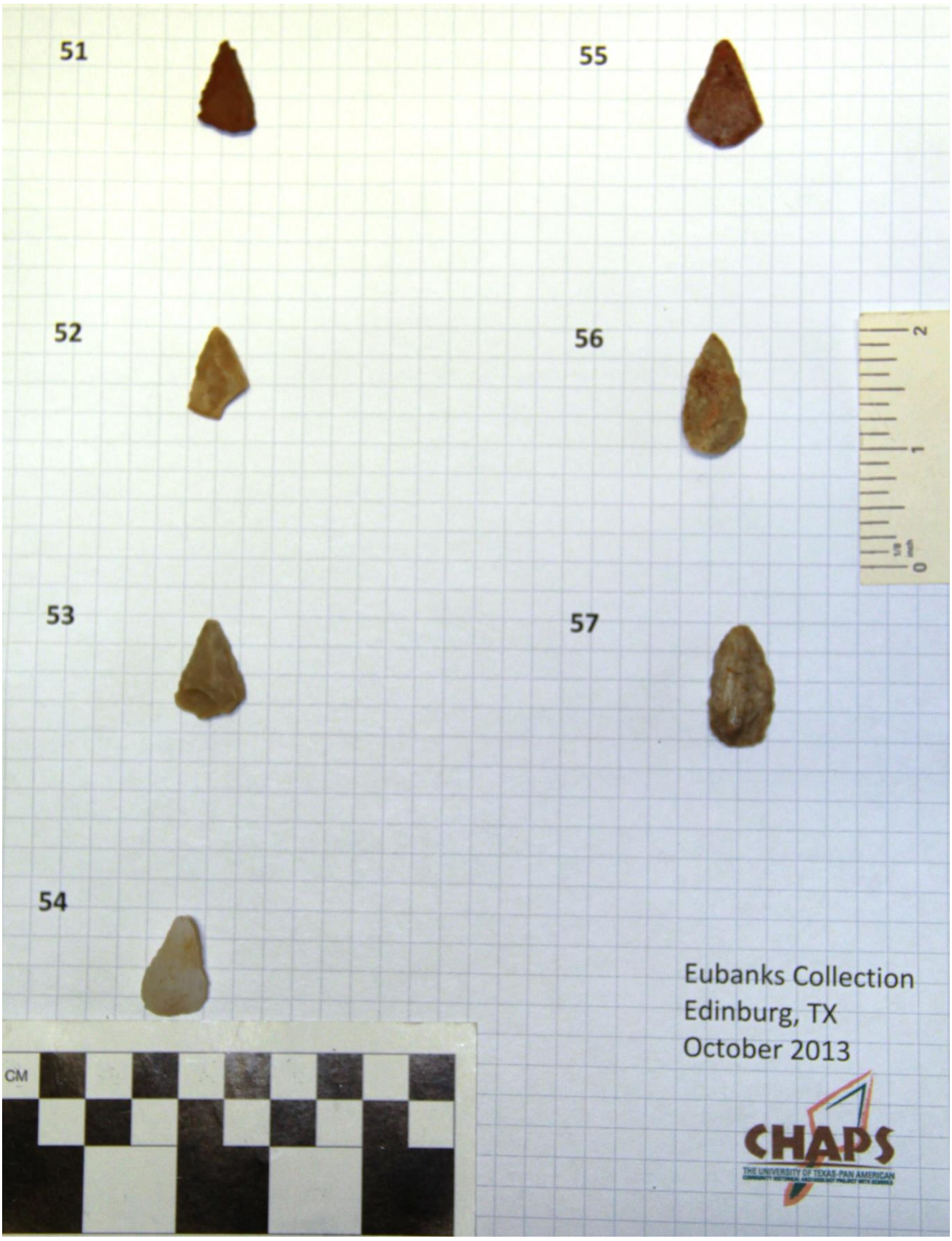
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Eubanks Collection
Edinburg, TX
October 2013
CHAPS
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS-PAN AMERICAN
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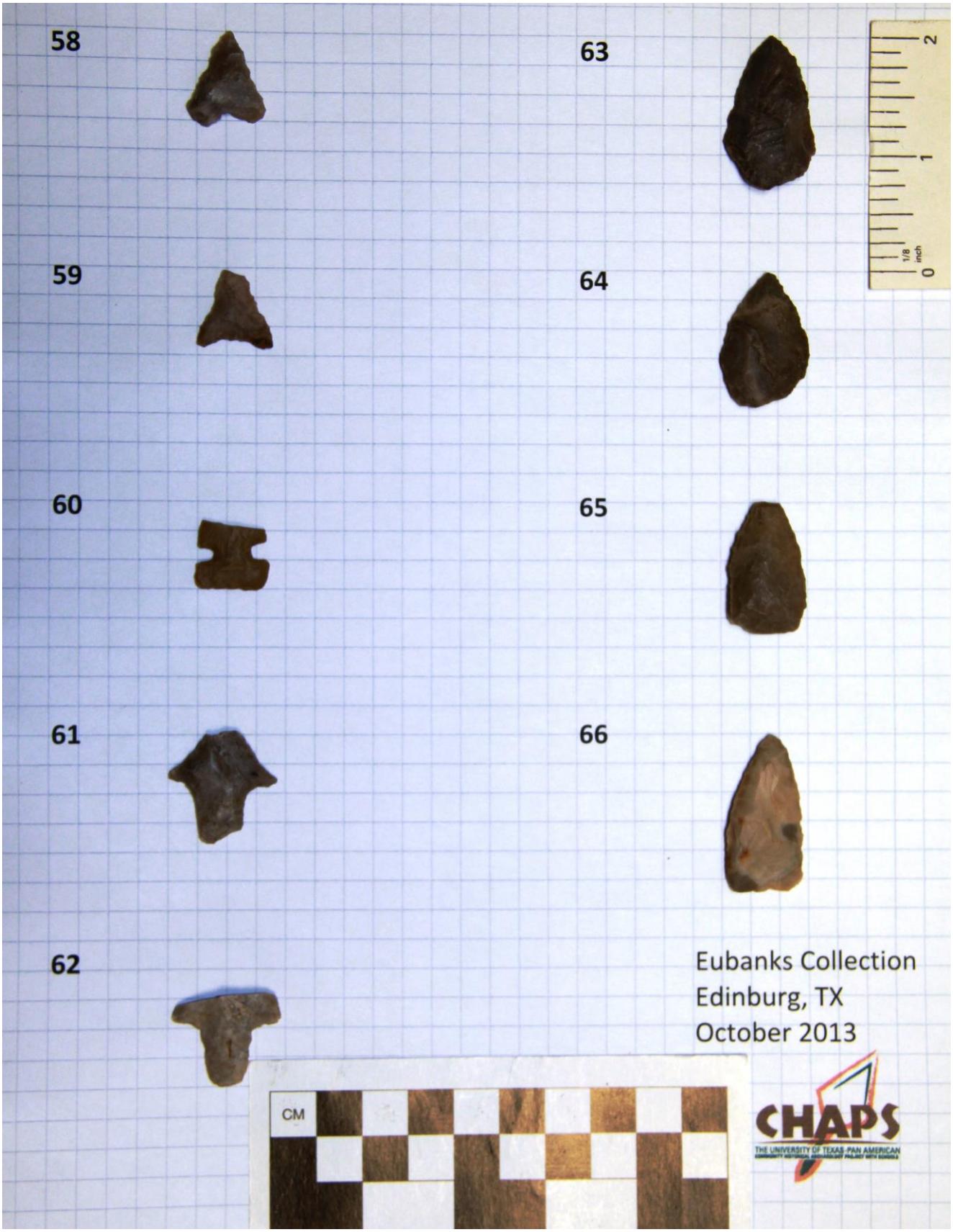
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Eubanks Collection
Edinburg, TX
October 2013
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CHAPS
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1/8 inch
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Eubanks Collection
Eubanks Road
Edinburg, TX
CHAPS
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Projectile Points: Tom Eubanks – Edinburg, TX – October 2013

#	Material	Type	Color	Period
1	Weathered, light color, fine grained chert	Catan	10YR 7/1 Light Gray	Late Archaic 1000 B.C.
2	Fine grained chert	Catan	10YR 6/2 Light Brownish Gray	Late Archaic 1000 B.C.
3	Chert with a grain of chert running through it	Tortugas	10YR 5/2 Grayish Brown	Middle Archaic 2500 B.C.
4	Waxy Chert	Flake tool, perforator or drill	2.5YR 5/2 Weak Red	
5	Fine grained, light chert	Hidalgo	10YR 6/1 Gray	Early Archaic 3500 – 6000 B.C.
6	Weathered surface; cannot identify	Tortugas	2.5YR 4/2 Weak Red	Middle Archaic 2500 B.C.
7	Red chert, coarse grained	Ensor	5R 4/3 Weak Red	Transitional Archaic 300 B.C.
8	Fine grained chert	Abasolo	10YR 7/1 Light Gray	Early Archaic 3500 – 6000 B.C.
9	Weathered chert with inclusions of quartz or fine grained silica	Abasolo	10YR 6/3 Pale Brown	Early Archaic 3500 – 6000 B.C.

#	Material	Type	Color	Period
10	Chert	Cameron	2.5Y 7/2 Light gray	Late Prehistoric A.D. 1200 - 700
11	Chert with weathered surface	Cameron	10YR 6/3 Pale brown	Late Prehistoric A.D. 1200 - 700
12	Chert with light colored inclusions	Cameron	10YR 5/2 Grayish brown	Late Prehistoric A.D. 1200 - 700
13	Chert – heat treated with interesting colors	Cameron	7.5YR 6/2 Pinkish gray	Late Prehistoric A.D. 1200 - 700
14	Chert – coarse grained, highly weathered surface	Cameron	7.5YR 5/3 Brown	Late Prehistoric A.D. 1200 - 700
15	Chert – weathered surface, coarse grained	Cameron	5YR 6/4 Light reddish brown	Late Prehistoric A.D. 1200 - 700
16	Chert with light colored inclusions	Cameron	5YR 6/2 Pinkish gray	Late Prehistoric A.D. 1200 - 700
17	Chert	Cameron	10YR 6/3 Pinkish gray	Late Prehistoric A.D. 1200 - 700
18	Chert	Cameron	7.5YR 6/3 Light brown	Late Prehistoric A.D. 1200 - 700
19	Chert	Cameron	7.5YR 6/1 Gray	Late Prehistoric A.D. 1200 - 700

#	Material	Type	Color	Period
20	Grey chert	Cameron	5YR 6/1 Gray	Late Prehistoric A.D. 1200 - 700
21	Chert-surface weathered	Cameron	10YR 6/3 Pale brown	Late Prehistoric A.D. 1200 - 700
22	Chert	Cameron	10YR 8/1 White	Late Prehistoric A.D. 1200 - 700
23	Chert	Cameron	10YR 6/2 Light brownish gray	Late Prehistoric A.D. 1200 - 700
24	Chert – coarse grained	Fresno	2.5Y 8/1 White	Late Prehistoric A.D. 1200 - 700
25	Chert – coarse grained	Fresno	10YR 5/3 Brown	Late Prehistoric A.D. 1200 - 700
26	Chert – weathered surface, coarse grained	Fresno	5YR 5/4 Reddish brown	Late Prehistoric A.D. 1200 - 700
27	Chert with some black inclusions, unique, very weathered surface	Fresno	10YR 7/3 Very pale brown	Late Prehistoric A.D. 1200 - 700
28	Chert with black inclusions, very weathered	Fresno	10YR 7/3 Very pale brown	Late Prehistoric A.D. 1200 - 700
29	Chert – coarse grained	Fresno	2.5Y 7/1 Light Gray	Late Prehistoric A.D. 1200 - 700
30	Chert	Fresno	10YR 6/2 Light brownish gray	Late Prehistoric A.D. 1200 - 700

#	Material	Type	Color	Period
31	Chert – very waxy, luster surface	Fresno	10YR 5/3 4/2 Brown-dark grayish brown	Late Prehistoric A.D. 1200 - 700
32	Chert – coarse grained	Fresno	10YR 7/3 Very pale brown	Late Prehistoric A.D. 1200 - 700
33	Chert	Fresno	10YR 7/2 Light gray	Late Prehistoric A.D. 1200 - 700
34	Chert	Fresno	10YR 4/1 Dark gray	Late Prehistoric A.D. 1200 - 700
35	Chert - very rough surface on one side	Fresno	10YR 6/2 Light brownish gray	Late Prehistoric A.D. 1200 - 700
36	Chert	Fresno	10YR 6/2 Light brownish gray	Late Prehistoric A.D. 1200 - 700
37	Gray chert with coarse grained and weathered surface	Fresno	10YR 5/1 Gray	Late Prehistoric A.D. 1200 - 700
38	Chert – coarse grained, weathered	Matamoros	10YR 6/2 Light brownish gray	Late Archaic 1000 B.C.
39	Chert – fine grained, light colored	Matamoros	10YR 6/2 Light brownish gray	Late Archaic 1000 B.C.
40	Chert – shiny, fine grained	Matamoros	2.5Y 5/2 Grayish brown	Late Archaic 1000 B.C.
41	Bi-color Chert	Matamoros	10YR 6/3 GLEY1 4/N	Late Archaic 1000 B.C.
42	Chert – fine grained with waxy surface	Matamoros	10YR 6/1 Gray	Late Archaic 1000 B.C.

#	Material	Type	Color	Period
43	Moss Chert	Matamoros	10YR ¾ Dark yellowish brown	Late Archaic 1000 B.C.
44	Chert – coarse grained with inclusion of opal	Matamoros	2.5Y 6/2 Light grayish brown	Late Archaic 1000 B.C.
45	Chert – fine grained with waxy surface	Matamoros	10YR 6/2 Light brownish gray	Late Archaic 1000 B.C.
46	Chert – highly weathered	Matamoros	5YR 4/2 Dark reddish gray	Late Archaic 1000 B.C.
47	Chert	Matamoros	10YR 7/2 Light gray	Late Archaic 1000 B.C.
48	Chert	Matamoros	10YR 6/2 Light brownish gray	Late Archaic 1000 B.C.
49	chert	Matamoros	10YR 5/2 Grayish brown	Late Archaic 1000 B.C.
50	Chert – fine grained, waxy	Matamoros	2.5YR 4/1 Dark reddish gray	Late Archaic 1000 B.C.
51	Volcanic rock?	Padre	7.5YR 4/3 Brown	Late Prehistoric A.D. 1200 - 700
52	Waxy Chert El Sauz?	Padre	10YR 7/3 Very pale brown	Late Prehistoric A.D. 1200 - 700
53	Waxy chert El Sauz?	Padre	10YR 6/2 Light brownish gray	Late Prehistoric A.D. 1200 - 700
54	Quartz	Padre	2.5Y 8/1 White	Late Prehistoric A.D. 1200 - 700

#	Material	Type	Color	Period
55	Chert	Padre	10R 5/3 Weak red	Late Prehistoric A.D. 1200 - 700
56	Chert	Padre	10YR 7/2 Light Gray	Late Prehistoric A.D. 1200 - 700
57	Waxy chert El Sauz?	Padre?	10YR 7/2 Light gray	Late Prehistoric A.D. 1200 - 700
58	Chert – fine grained	Starr preform	10YR 6/2 Light brownish gray	Late Prehistoric A.D. 1200 - 700
59	Chert – dull, fine grained	Starr	10YR 6/3 Pale brown	Late Prehistoric A.D. 1200 - 700
60	Chert	Caracara Base	10YR 5/3 Brown	Late Prehistoric A.D. 1200 - 700
61	Chert	Cannot identify	10YR 5/2 Grayish brown	
62	Chert – very homogeneous	Arenosa Base	10YR 7/1 Light gray	Middle Archaic 2500 B.C.
63	Chert – fine grained with weathering	Young	10YR 4/1 Dark gray	
64	Chert – dark with weathered surface	Catan	10YR 5/2 Grayish brown	Late Archaic 1000 B.C.
65	Chert – fine grained with waxy surface	Catan	10YR 5/3 Brown	Late Archaic 1000 B.C.
66	Very fine grained, weathered chert with metallic inclusions	Cannot identify	10YR 7/1 Light gray	

Abasolo (dart point) is a large, unstemmed triangular point that has a distinctive well rounded base. The lateral edges may be beveled or steeply chipped, and the base is sometimes thinned. It is similar to *Catán* but larger in size. Abasolo specimens often have impact fractures reflective of their use as dart points, although microscopic use-wear is sometimes observed on the lateral edges. (Turner, Hester and McReynolds 2011: 56)

Arenosa (dart point) is distinguished from a wide range of other Middle Archaic contracting stem styles on the basis of stem termination, which is pointed to slightly rounded. Short barbs are common. It is similar to and contemporary with both Langtry and Vale Verde points. (Turner, Hester and McReynolds 2011: 60)

Cameron (arrow point) is tiny, usually equilateral, triangular point with straight to slightly convex edges. A few are unifacially chipped, and some are made of glass. It is similar to the Fresno type but smaller (less than 20mm in length) and generally much thicker. (Turner, Hester and McReynolds 2011: 182)

Caracara (arrow point) is side notched, small with convex to nearly straight lateral edges. Flaking is random but usually well executed. The rounded or squared ends of the basal "ears" usually extend slightly beyond with of the shoulders. Bases are normally straight but may be slightly concave or slightly convex. (Turner and Hester 1999: 205)

Catán (dart point) is a triangular, unstemmed point that has straight to slightly convex lateral edges that are sometimes beveled and a convex, well-rounded base that has been thinned by the removal of one or two broad, arc-shaped flakes. The outline is similar to *Abasolo*, but *Catan* points are smaller. (Turner, Hester and McReynolds 2011: 73)

Ensor (dart point) is a point that varies considerably in all dimensions, but broad expanding stems, shallow side or corner notches and generally straight bases tend to identify the type. Specimens with a V-shaped basal notch are sometimes called "Ensor-Frio." Ensor is a key marker of the Transitional Archaic, mainly in campsites, but also in burials and cemeteries. (Turner, Hester and McReynolds 2011: 94)

Fresno (arrow point) is an unstemmed, triangular point that has straight to slightly convex or concave lateral edges and a convex or slightly concave base. It is similar to Cameron but is over 20 mm in length. Some of these specimens may be preforms and not a distinct type. However, on the Texas coast, carefully chipped specimens appear to represent a typological group. (Turner, Hester and McReynolds 2011: 191)

Hidalgo (dart point) is a sturdy point, usually with an expanding stem and more or less bulbous base. It is usually biconvex in cross section and few are less than 10 mm thick. They range from narrow lanceolate to broadly ovate in outline. The shoulders are generally rounded; others strongly shouldered, verging on barbed. The stem outline is variable, and basal corners are usually rounded. They may be reworked so that one or both lateral edges angle abruptly to a newly placed tip. (Turner and Hester 2011: 113)

Matamoros (dart point) is a small, often thick, triangular or sub triangular, unstemmed point that is similar to *Tortugas*, but markedly smaller. Average length of *Tortugas* is 4.9 mm – 6.7 mm and *Matamoros* ranges from 3.2 mm to 4.7 mm in length.

Padre (arrow point) is a small, triangular, unstemmed point that has convex lateral edges and a rounded base. It exhibits characteristics of both Cameron and Fresno points. (Turner, Hester and McReynolds 2011: 205)

Starr (arrow point) is a triangular point that is distinguished by slightly concave lateral edges and a pronounced basal concavity. These points are highly restricted in their geographic distribution and should not be used as a "niche" for similar points found great distances from their distribution. (Turner, Hester and McReynolds 2011: 210)

Young (arrow point) is a subtriangular point made from a thin flake that has been crudely knapped around the edges, the faces showing little or no sign of work. The bases and lateral edges are convex. In practically all 9if not all) cases, these specimens are preforms. (Turner, Hester and McReynolds 2011: 216)

Tortugas (dart point) are large, unstemmed, triangular points that have an approximately straight to concave base and alternately beveled edges. It is often thick and crudely flaked in the midsection and well-thinned basally. (Turner and Hester 1999: 188)

Reference for definitions:

Turner, Ellen Sue and Thomas R. Hester
1999 A Field Guide to Stone Artifacts of Texas Indians. Gulf Publishing, New York.

Turner, Ellen Sue, Thomas R. Hester and Richard McReynolds
2011 Stone Artifacts of Texas Indians. Taylor Trade Publishing, New York.

SPECIAL COMMENTS

Mr. Thomas Eubanks (Tom) provided the CHAPS team with a number of points that he found on his parent's property on Eubanks Road and mentioned that many of the points that he found were within a 1/8-mile radius of his parent's home. In particular, the Abasolo point (Early Archaic 3,500-6,000 B.C.) was found out by the mailbox at the house next to the road before it was paved. When his parents bought the house on Eubanks Road, the road was a dirt road, then they covered it with caliche and now it is a paved road up to a point just beyond the citrus grove to the north of the house. There is a broken point (i.e., two pieces that appear to fit together) which he found one half of it very close to the location where he found the Abasolo point. The other half to this point was found in the same vicinity approximately 20 years later (see point #'s 9 and 67).

We asked Tom why he believed there were so many points to be found at his parents' property. He feels that the location where his parents' home stands was the site of an ancient hunting camp or a settlement camp since there were so many projectile point artifacts found on the property. He said that this particular plot of land sits on a high spot for quite a distance. There are 60 (or so) different elevations on this property – great variations in land levels.

Tom notes that his home at 18460 Hoehn Road might have been a location of an ancient river or water source. As the crow flies, the two properties are approximately ½ mile apart (see aerial image page 5).

Tom used to be in possession of a projectile point type of what he recognizes to be an Early Triangular point that somehow went missing. He used to keep the points in a basket at his house and for some reason that point disappeared. He says it is similar in color to the one pictured in our CHAPS projectile point poster. He noted that the point that he found was a unique color and was beautiful.

Tom said that he would find a lot of points on the inclines within the orchards. Rain would wash the surface dirt making them easier to find. They used to have wicked wind storms where winds would reach 20-30 mph and the wind (erosion) would expose the points as well. Many times he found points on 1-3% graded land. In between the grades, there would a transition piece between of land. Rain storms would push points to into these transition areas.

Tom informed us that there were 85 different soil types in the RGV from Padre Island out to Rio Grande City (disregarding grade) and that there are 7 types of soils on his property on 18460 Hoehn Road.

Tom recalls that he may have found a few of the points in his collection out on Western Road. His family used to have a grove out on Western Road where you would take Monte Cristo Road out to Moorefield Road and turn right toward McCook. They planted a 10-acre orchard out on Western Road property and some of the points were found out there but mostly looked similar to the 'Fresno' type points in the collection (similar to a 'standard type' point as #31 in the collection).
The CHAPS team has reproduced the Eubank's Abasolo point (#9) and included them as replica artifacts in the *Native American Peoples of South Texas: Travelling Trunk for K-12 Education*. There

were 26 total (15 + 11) replica points made of the Eubanks Abasolo (#9) point. The material used to make these replicas was a high grade urethane epoxy.

SOURCES

Munsell Color
2009 Munsel Soil-Color Charts. Munsel Color, Grand Rapids, MI.

Turner, Ellen Sue and Thomas R. Hester
1999 A Field Guide to Stone Artifacts of Texas Indians. Gulf Publishing, New York.

Turner, Ellen Sue, Thomas R. Hester and Richard McReynolds
2011 Stone Artifacts of Texas Indians. Taylor Trade Publishing, New York.