

Mrs. Moore is shown here with one case containing arrowheads, ornaments, knives and scrapers. The 92 objects were all found in one "cache" on the Umpqua divide. Mrs. Moore, with her husband on the trip, found the object of black obsidian in the center, possibly used as an ornament, and some of the arrowheads. Part of the arrowheads are agate and are so small that Mr. Moore believes they were used as ornaments or trinkets. The delicately chipped pieces which resemble crosses are very rare and found only in a few collections.



Mr. Moore is pictured above in his den which contains a large part of his collection of Indian artifacts. Everything in the room has been numbered and catalogued. Mr. Moore holds an Indian pipe of black stone which he found on a knoll across the Rogue river from his home. Since western Indians had no tobacco, they smoked other aromatic leaves. The fireplace holds mortars and pestles which the Indians used for grinding seeds and acorns. In the center foreground are a metate and mano, articles also used for grinding food.



Since the Indians of this section did not know how to process metals, their tools and weapons were made from stone, wood and animal tissue. Pictured above are seven stone articles which illustrate the Indians' craftsmanship. The articles are (at top, left to right) a boat plane or charcoal gouge and splitting wedge; (center, left to right) red stone pipe, a carved pipe and a tomahawk head, and below are a tomahawk with handle of hardened buffalo tendon, and another tomahawk head.

MEDFORD TRIBUNE
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1956

Indian Artifacts

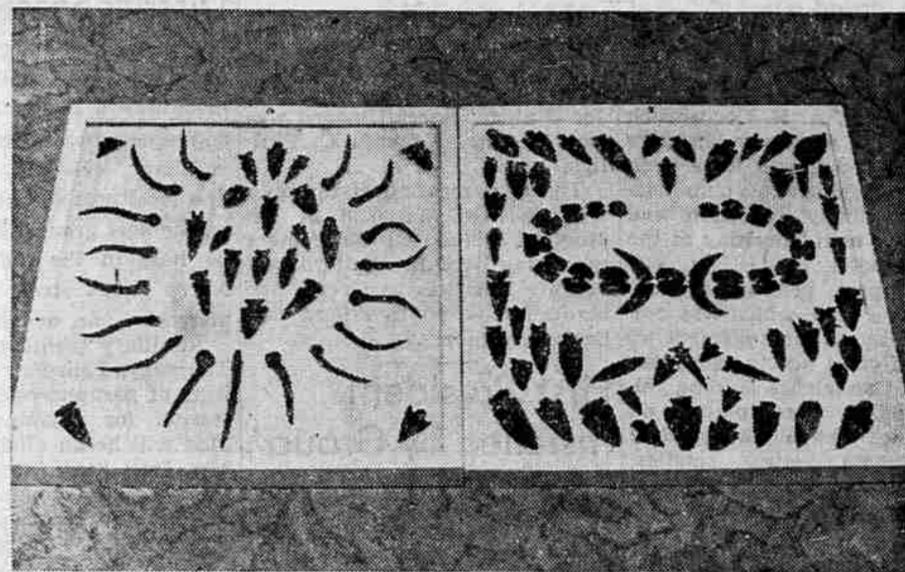
By Olive Starcher

One of the most extensive private collections of Indian relics and artifacts in the west is owned by Earl F. Moore, Gold Hill. Mr. Moore, born in Central Point, lived in central Oregon near Paisley as a boy and from the time he found his first arrowhead, was a "collector."

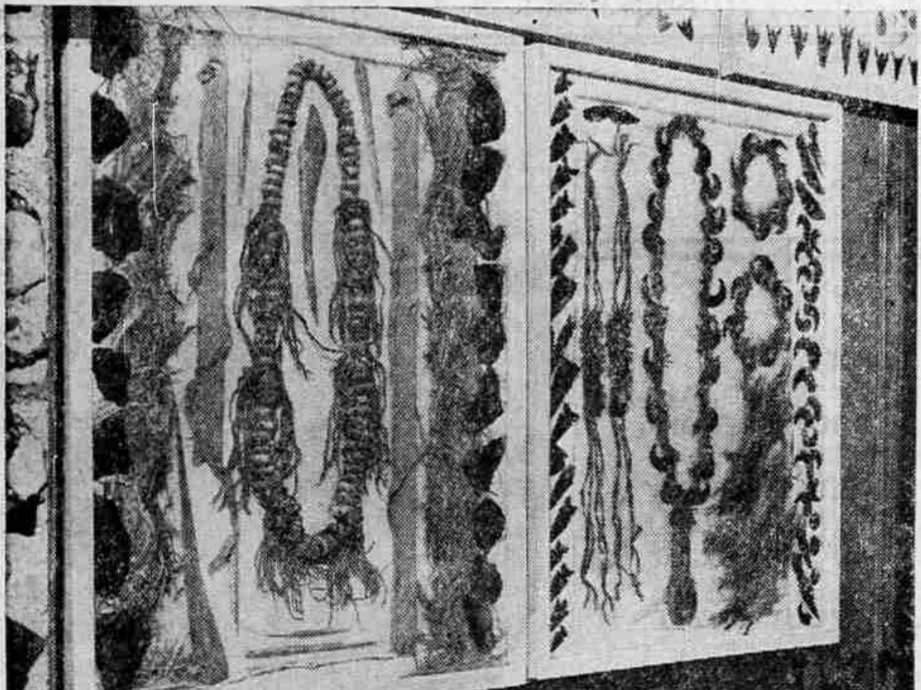
He now has hundreds of arrowheads, necklaces, ornaments, knives, tomahawk heads and other objects. The collection includes skulls found in California, and his most recent and most exciting find was seven arrows, perfect with heads still attached, and quiver, found in Oregon.

Mr. Moore has carried on his archeological search in Oregon, California, Montana, and Wyoming, but has found the greater portion of his treasures in his home state. He has been asked numerous times to put his collection in museums, but cherishes the hope of having a museum of his own in Gold Hill when he retires from his work at the Ideal Cement company plant in Gold Hill.

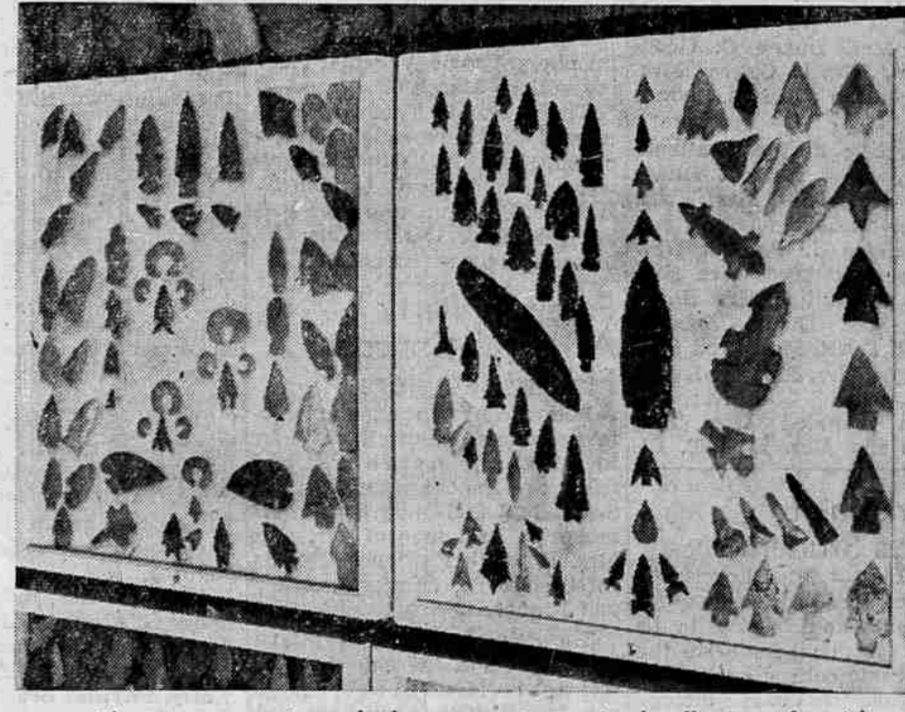
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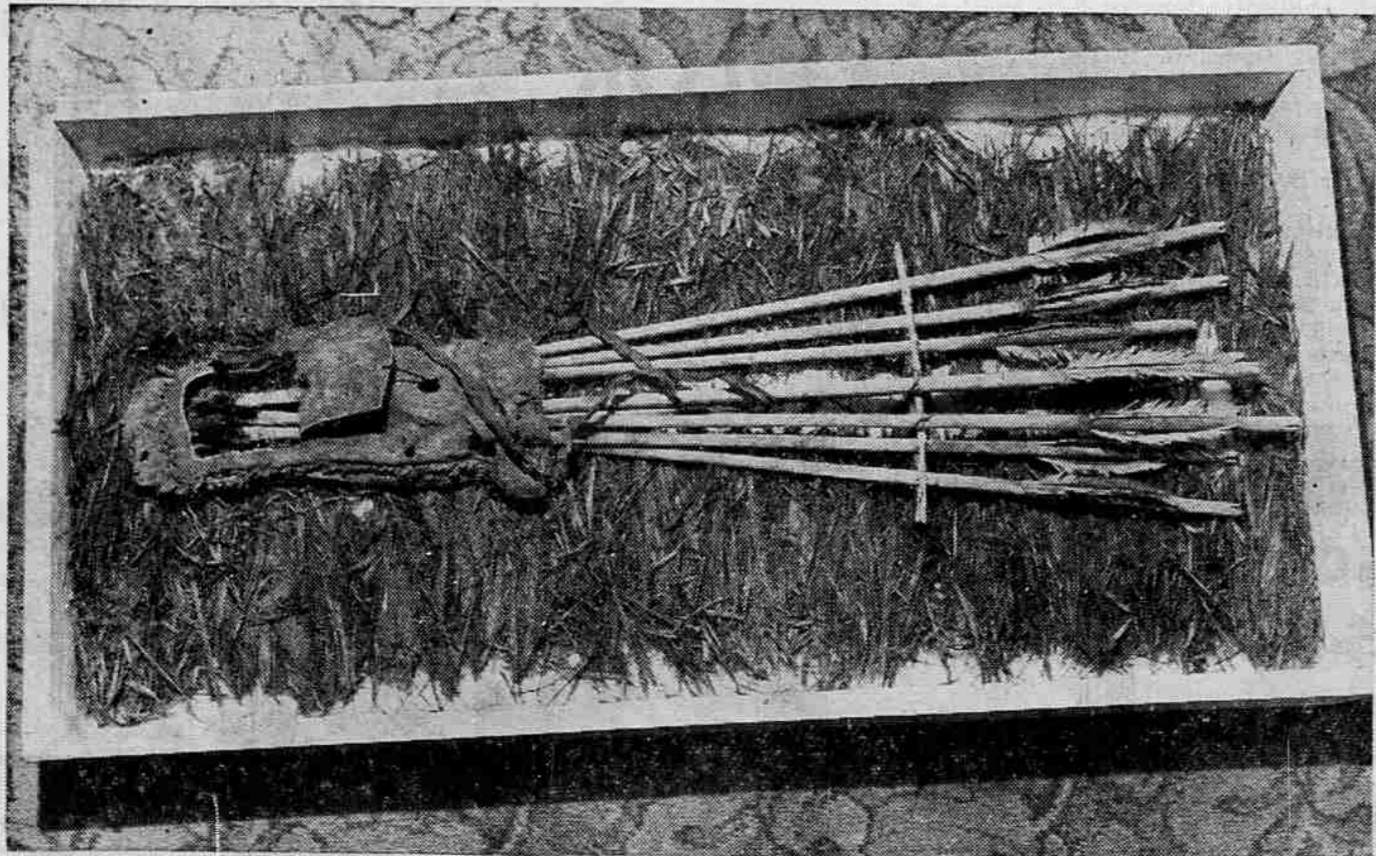
Among Mr. Moore's important finds are a number of beautiful black obsidian articles worn as ornaments by eastern Oregon Indians. In the center of the case at right are 19 obsidian pieces which made up an Indian headband—arranged in the case just as found. The thongs or grasses which originally strung the ornaments had disintegrated. The curved spike-like pieces in the case at left were probably strung as a necklace.



Above is an exhibit from ancient central Oregon caves. Case at left contains a shell necklace, two reed mat shuttles, assorted bone needles, blocks of obsidian or arrowpoint "stock" and a quantity of sagebrush fiber in which the "find" lay packed. Case at right shows another "package find" including neck and wrist pieces (two sets), some very finely made hunting points and a number of extra "bear claws," all of black obsidian.



The two cases pictured above contain a mixed collection of articles found mostly in Montana and Wyoming. The case at right contains nose ornaments, arrowheads with finely notched edges and two large lopsided "arrowheads" at the top known as "tang knives." The case at left is centered with a large spear head and at the right among the arrowheads is an obsidian knife. Of interest are the object in the shape of a bird, and another in the shape of a small animal.



Last summer while on an expedition into the central Oregon lake country Mr. Moore made one of his most important archeological finds in a cave—seven arrows complete with obsidian tips and feather fletching in the original buckskin quiver. Since the arrows began to crumble as soon as they were exposed to the air, Mr. Moore uncovered only a small portion at a time and sprayed them with colorless plastic. The process took three days. As he worked, he made a frame of greasewood to work under the precious find. The arrows, and the bed of sage bark in which they were found, may be thousands of years old.



The four Indian skulls above are another valuable part of Mr. Moore's collection. They were taken from an excavation near Stockton, Calif., some having the medallions of abalone shell on them as pictured here. An arrowhead protrudes through the back of the skull at extreme right, Mr. Moore having found it inside the skull and replaced it in the hole which it had made on entering the victim's head. The bodies had been partially cremated and fragments of the cremation baskets are a part of the exhibit. At the same site Mr. Moore collected necklaces of abalone shells and a number of the "Stockton" arrowheads with carefully notched edges.