

A COMPARISON OF NEBO HILL AND SEDALIA POINTS

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ABSTRACT

Classification of Nebo Hill and Sedalia points as separate types has been the subject of debate among archaeologists. Some argue that identification of two point types is erroneous and there is only one type with a wide range of measurable variation; whereas, others propose differences that can be verified by measurements. Differences between the two groups previously have been attributed to isolation and drift. Current research supports earlier studies that proposed measurable differences between the two point classes based on maximum width and geographical distribution. However, additional emphasis on other traits together with observations on reworking of the proximal portion of these points provides supplementary explanations for the differences, as well as the similarities. The relationship between the distribution of *Phragmites australis*, or common reed, and Nebo Hill points offers an explanation for the change in form founded on a possible intensification in the occurrence of socket hafting.