

### III. Excavation X-17, stratigraphic component B (SC-B; 13 artefacts, numbers 968–980)

#### III.1. Taxon Ef: Blade-like flake (1 item; #968)

#968. Item no. 4486-17456

Exc. nr.	Discovery date	Square-subsq.	Depth range Z(D)	Depth Z(datum)	UTM E (x)	UTM N (y)	Stratum	Stratig. comp. (SC)
X17	17/02/2019	A3	11.65/ 11.60	11.63	283892.60	2724522.15	1705	B?
Taxon code	Taxon definition	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Thickness (mm)	Weight (g)	Raw material class		
Ef	Blade-like flake	22	12.6	4	1.10	V		



Characterization. This artefact is a secondary blade-like flake, a thinning debitage element without indications of use-wear or tool-related modifications on its edges. The flake has a laterally curved shape, defined by a low central ridge. The right-dorsal side is cortical. The ventral side is rugged. The small isolated platform is partly collapsed. The distal end has a similar aspect to the proximal one.



## III.2. Taxon E: Blades (4 items; #969–972)

### #969. Item no. 4421-17449

Exc. nr.	Discovery date	Square-subsq.	Depth range Z(D)	Depth Z(datum)	UTM E (x)	UTM N (y)	Stratum	Stratig. comp. (SC)
X17	17/02/2019	C4	-	11.63	283892.76	2724522.26	1705	B?
Taxon code	Taxon definition	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Thickness (mm)	Weight (g)	Raw material class		
E	Blade?	26.6	26	5.2	4.54	V		



**Characterization.** This artefact is the proximal fragment of a primary blade or blade-like flake removed from near the corner area of a tabular core of green limestone. The platform is very well-defined at the right end of the proximal edge; it is isolated, ground, next to a lower faceted surface. Upon removal, it came off with a larger oval surface, with a well-marked ventral edge, but not lipped. The thick yellowish carbonate coating allows to visualize the traces of an *erailure* scar. The proximal sector of the ventral face is slightly convex, as a form of impact

bulb. The dorsal side is flat, eroded, a natural surface of the parent core. The dorsal ridge is displaced to the right. The distal end of the artefact is the prominently marked diagonal fracture plane, probably caused by bending the original blank. The edges lack clear evidence of use-wear or post-extraction transformations.



**#970. Item no. 4427B-17451**

Exc. nr.	Discovery date	Square-subsq.	Depth range Z(D)	Depth Z(datum)	UTM E (x)	UTM N (y)	Stratum	Stratig. comp. (SC)
X17	16/02/2019	G7	-	11.64	283892.70	2724522.57	1705	B?
Taxon code	Taxon definition	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Thickness (mm)	Weight (g)	Raw material class		
E	Blade	10.2	16	4.7	0.93	V		



Characterization. This small item is the medial fragment of a prismatic blade of dark-green limestone. Both ends are missing by fracture. The dorsal side is formed by two parallel blade extractions. One edge is squarish, fractured. The other one is sharper, but also fractured. The ventral side is covered by brown sediment depositions. This is a possible microlith element, but traces of use are not visible.



**#971. Item no. 4443-17452**

Exc. nr.	Discovery date	Square-subsq.	Depth range Z(D)	Depth Z(datum)	UTM E (x)	UTM N (y)	Stratum	Stratig. comp. (SC)
X17	18/02/2019	E6	-	11.58	283893.03	2724522.43	1705	B?
Taxon code	Taxon definition	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Thickness (mm)	Weight (g)	Raw material class		
E	Blade	31.7	12.8	7.6	2.47	V		



**Characterization.** This dark-green limestone artefact is a high-ridged secondary or tertiary blade, curved over its ventral side, wider and thicker at the medial sector and narrow at its distal, feathered end. It has a small, punctiform, partly collapsed platform, without associated *erraillure* scar on the ventral side, but with a narrow, ridge-like impact protuberance. The edges do not show convincing evidence of use-wear or post-extraction modifications.



**#972. Item no. 4485-17455**

Exc. nr.	Discovery date	Square-subsq.	Depth range Z(D)	Depth Z(datum)	UTM E (x)	UTM N (y)	Stratum	Stratig. comp. (SC)
X17	18/02/2019	F7	11.60/11.55	11.57	283893.10	2724522.55	1705	B?
Taxon code	Taxon definition	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Thickness (mm)	Weight (g)	Raw material class		
E	Blade	24	12.8	5.2	1.56	V		



**Characterization.** This item is a fragmentary secondary blade of pale-green limestone, extracted from a tabular core, as shown by the naturally flat, left dorsal surface. Both ends are missing, by fracture. The features on the ventral side suggest that the wider end, defined by an oblique fracture plane, was the location of the proximal end containing the platform. The edges lack convincing evidence of use-wear.

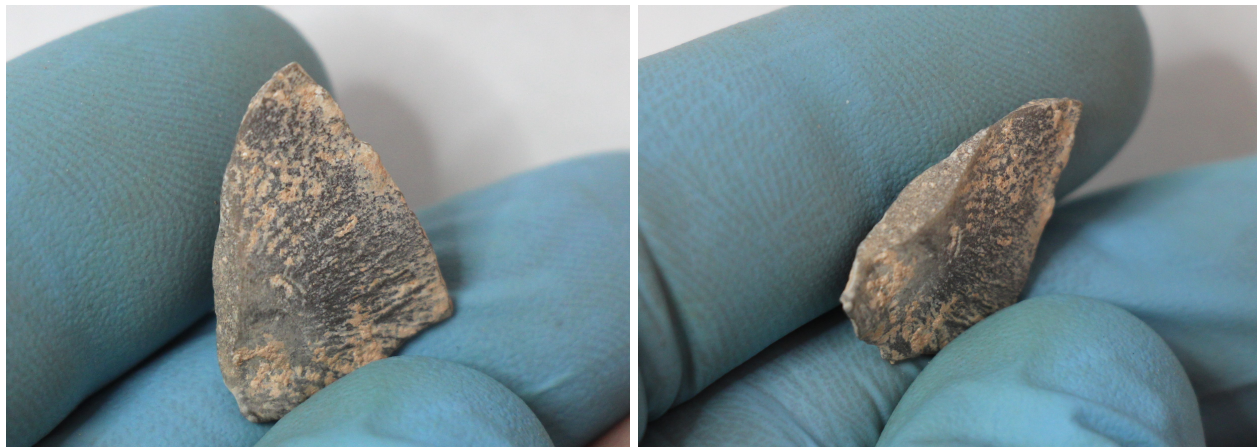




**III.3. Taxon F – Dx: Tools on flake, modified/used flakes**  
( 2 items; #973–974)

**#973. Item no. 4452-17454**

Exc. nr.	Discovery date	Square-subsq.	Depth range Z(D)	Depth Z(datum)	UTM E (x)	UTM N (y)	Stratum	Stratig. comp. (SC)
X17	16/02/2019	G4	11.65/ 11.60	11.62	283893.20	2724522.25	1705	B?
Taxon code	Taxon definition	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Thickness (mm)	Weight (g)	Raw material class		
Dx, F	Flake, modified	13.2	20	3.2	0.74	V		



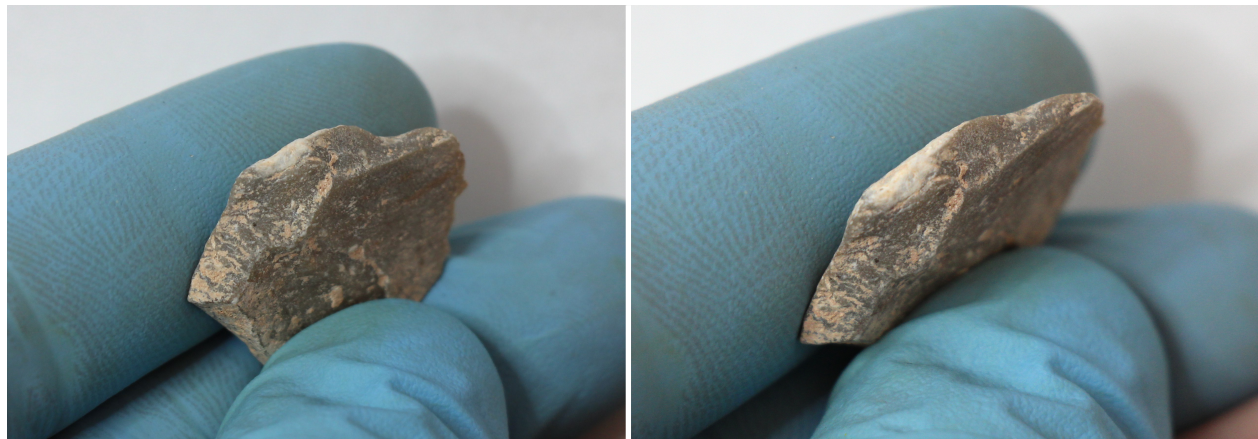
**Characterization.** This artefact is a small transversal flake of dark-green limestone that was probably intentionally modified by edge trimming in order to produce a point-like triangular item, but the human agency is difficult to prove in an artefact with such thin edges, vulnerable to natural damage that may look anthropic. The item preserved its platform intact: a long, oval, flat, unprepared, non-lipped platform, located at the centre-right of the proximal edge. Its ventral edge grows thicker into a shallow impact bulb. The distal edge was fractured, then



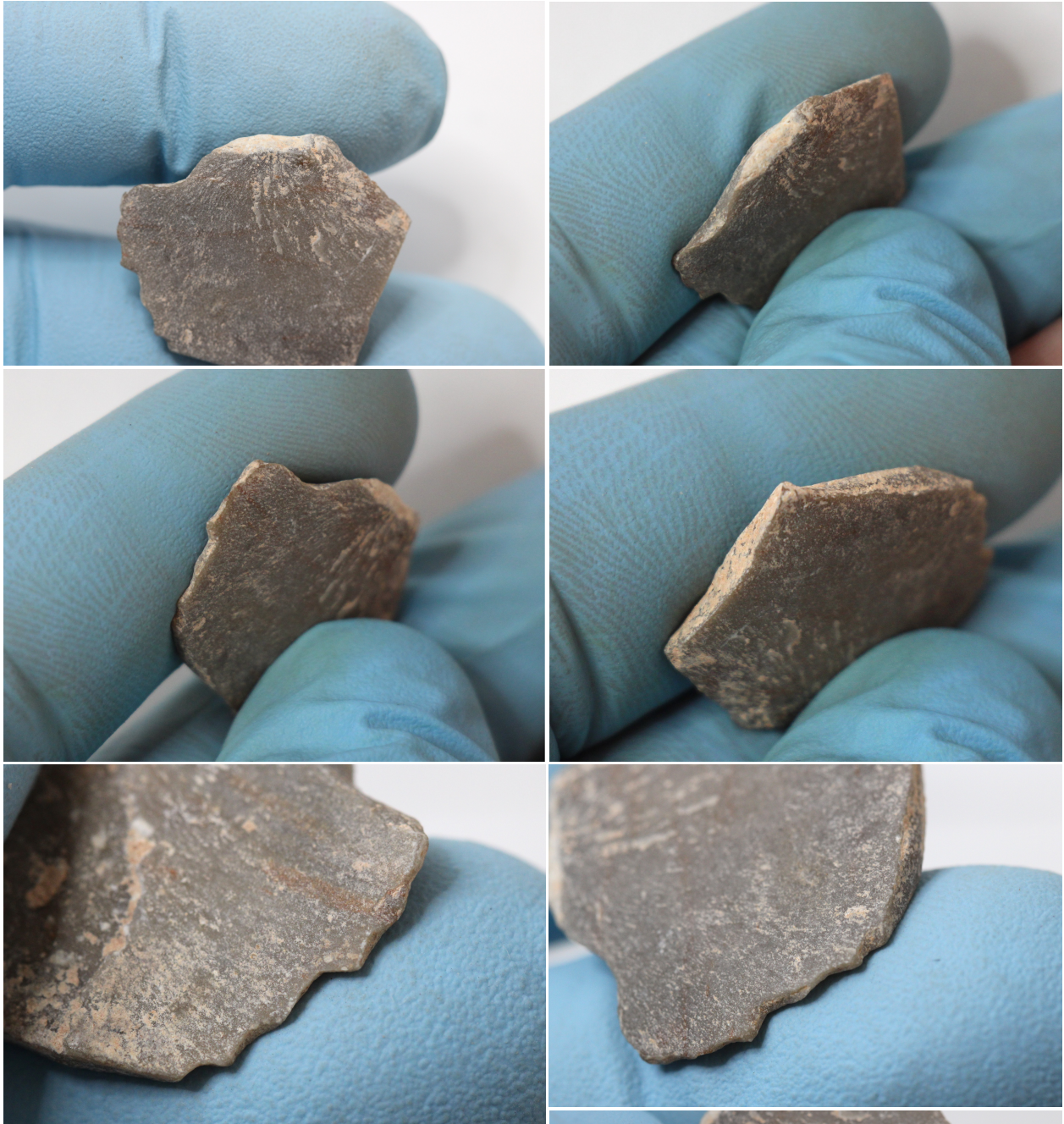
trimmed into a straight edge. The resulting product could be utilized as a small point, although there is no direct evidence of its final functionality.

**#974. Item no. 4487-17457**

Exc. nr.	Discovery date	Square-subsq.	Depth range Z(D)	Depth Z(datum)	UTM E (x)	UTM N (y)	Stratum	Stratig. comp. (SC)
X17	18/02/2019	F6	11.60/11.55	11.57	283893.10	2724522.45	1705	B?
Taxon code	Taxon definition	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Thickness (mm)	Weight (g)	Raw material class		
Dx, F	Flake, used	20.5	24.2	4.7	2.41	V		



**Characterization.** This artefact is a tool-on-flake, an interesting example of modified and used, finely-made tertiary flake of fine-grained green limestone, with scarce depositions of carbonate sediment on the dorsal side. The flake has a very well-defined platform, ground, white-stained, visible from both the dorsal and ventral sides. The ventral side is smooth and clean, without interventions, with fine impact striations radiating away from the impact spot. A very shallow depression below the proximal edge may be a variant of *erillure* scar, and there is a small impact protuberance to the right. The dorsal side is flattened, formed by shallow flake

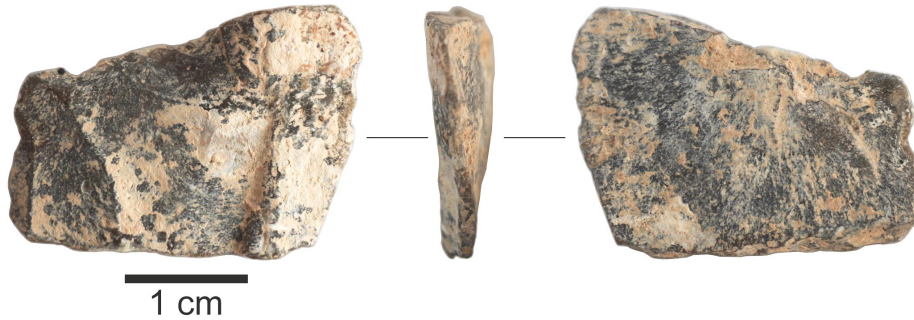


extractions. The left edge is squarish, probably part of the parent core. The distal edge is broken straight, perhaps as an anthropic modification. The left edge is very thin, and it may represent the worn-out working edge of a cutting tool; the indicators are convincing. The use-wear appears in the form of a serrated edge with polished micro-notches, indicating perpendicular pressure on the edge.

**III.4. Taxon F – Ef, E: Tools on blade, modified/used blades  
or blade-like flakes  
(2 items; #975–976)**

**#975. Item no. 4417-17447**

Exc. nr.	Discovery date	Square-subsq.	Depth range Z(D)	Depth Z(datum)	UTM E (x)	UTM N (y)	Stratum	Stratig. comp. (SC)
X17	11/02/2019	E5	11.75/ 11.70	11.73	283893.00	2724522.35	1703	B?
Taxon code	Taxon definition	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Thickness (mm)	Weight (g)	Raw material class		
E, F?	Blade used	20.6	27.5	4	3.15	V		



**Characterization.** This interesting and highly important artefact — very relevant typologically and technologically — is the proximal fragment of a wide and thin tertiary blade or blade-like flake of green limestone, with remarkable impact-related features, and localized stains of cemented white carbonates on both sides, predominantly on the dorsal face. The proximal edge is mostly collapsed or reduced by removed platforms. The right end of it is preserved in the form of a flat surface tilted to the left. The rest of the proximal edge is thinned down. The dorsal side contains, at its centre, the scar of another blade-like extraction, seemingly



originated on the same platform surface. The centre of the thinned proximal edge reveals a white-dotted spot bracketed by two small concavities, probably resulted from repeated impacts or — even more probably and more relevant — the effect of intentional isolation of the prepared platform by pressure. The percussion spot is associated with two well-defined *erraillure* scars on the ventral side, on its either side. The corresponding portion of the ventral face is slightly convex, as a particular manifestation of the impact bulb. The multiple, fine impact striations radiate away from the impact spot, confirming the origin of the extraction. The distal end of the artefact is a transversal fracture plane that separated this fragment from the rest of the original blank. The edges do seem to present certain degree of use-wear and damage, possibly related to the use of the blade as a cutting tool.

**#976. Item no. 4427A-17450**



Exc. nr.	Discovery date	Square -subsq.	Depth range Z(D)	Depth Z(datum)	UTM E (x)	UTM N (y)	Stratum	Stratig. comp. (SC)
X17	16/02/2019	G7	-	11.64	283892.70	2724522.57	1705	B?
Taxon code	Taxon definition	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Thickness (mm)	Weight (g)	Raw material class		
E, F?	Blade, used?	40	16.9	9.8	6.34	V		



**Characterization.** This artefact is a possible tool-on-blade, a robust corner blade extracted from the corner of a tabular core of green limestone. The two planes of the dorsal surface meet at 90°. The dorsal side is covered by a continuous layer of cemented yellowish carbonate-rich sediment, thicker on the right half, and partly worn-out on the left side. The ventral side is slightly curved, with a cemented sediment conglomerate at its centre. The diagonal proximal end is a diagonal fracture plane. The original proximal end is missing. The distal end is a feathered termination. The edges show certain degree of damage that can be use-wear produced by the utilization of the blade as a tool, but its anthropic origin is difficult to assess, due to the carbonate coating and subsequent erosion.



**III.5. Taxon G: Scrapers**  
(1 item; #977)

**#977. Item no. 4416-17446**

Exc. nr.	Discovery date	Square-subsq.	Depth range Z(D)	Depth Z(datum)	UTM E (x)	UTM N (y)	Stratum	Stratig. comp. (SC)
X17	10/02/2019	B7	-	11.71	283892.67	2724522.56	1703	B?
Taxon code	Taxon definition	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Thickness (mm)	Weight (g)	Raw material class		
G	Scraper	38	27.2	8.5	9.20	V		



Characterization. This remarkable artefact of dark-green fine-grained limestone is one of the most important tools-on-flake in the Chiquihuite assemblage, found with its dorsal side in



direct contact with the upper interface of its stratum, which resulted in a thickly coated dorsal face covered by cemented carbonate depositions. This obstructs the definition of the blade-like flake as primary or tertiary. This artefact is an unquestionable endscraper, made by retouch and flaking on a wide blade-like flake, seemingly obtained from the corner area of a tabular core. The

blank has a strong, thick faceted platform preserved on a proximal end narrower than the distal end, with an isolated impact spot placed towards its right end, and associated with a small impact protuberance on the corresponding section of the ventral face. The dorsal side has an asymmetrical composition, with the dorsal ridge displaced to the left. The ventral side was modified by the extraction of a blade-like flake removed transversally from the proximal sector, forming a scar like a groove or like a transversal flute, suitable for ergonomic purposes or for hafting. The working edge of the endscraper is the modified distal edge, shaped into a strong convex edge by steep percussion retouch applied from the ventral side. The retouch micro-scars are evident and easy to assess macroscopically, but it is difficult to determine whether the scraper was actually utilized. Yet, that is a strong possibility, considering the polish and worn ridges between the retouch scars. Specialized assessments are required to address the issue.





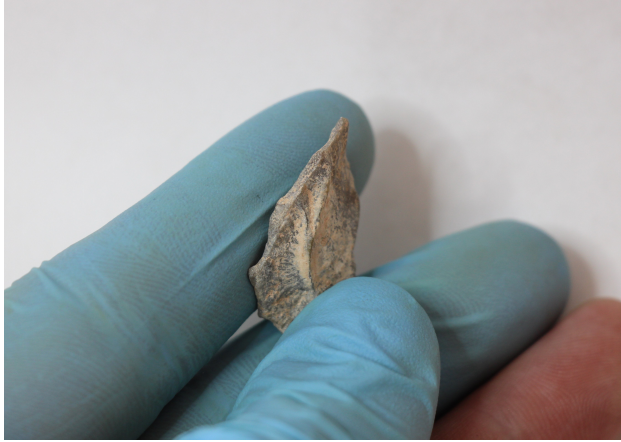
**III.6. Taxon Hf: Point on flake**  
(1 item; #978)

**#978. Item no. 4447-17453**

Exc. nr.	Discovery date	Square-subsq.	Depth range Z(D)	Depth Z(datum)	UTM E (x)	UTM N (y)	Stratum	Stratig. comp. (SC)
X17	16/02/2019	C6	-	11.60	283892.76	2724522.48	1705	B?
Taxon code	Taxon definition	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Thickness (mm)	Weight (g)	Raw material class		
Hf	Point on flake?	27.6	15.4	5.6	2.27	V		



Characterization. This peculiar artefact is a possible point on flake, a point with serrated margins made by edge modification on a tertiary flake of pale-green limestone with a confusing



morphology. It is difficult to determine the category of the flake, but, considering the wide hinge fracture visible along its ventral side, the extraction originated most likely on the side of the point, indicating this probably was a transversal flake. Regardless the nature of the blank, one edge was carefully and systematically fractured into a succession of scars that produced a serrated edge. The opposite edge presents only minimal modification on the proximal segment of the presumed point, in the form of an intervention that apparently removed the platform area. The artefact is an already functional, suitable point.



**III.7. Taxon Ht: Transversal point**  
(1 item; #979)

**#979. Item no. 3192-17319**

Exc. nr.	Discovery date	Square-subsq.	Depth range Z(D)	Depth Z(datum)	UTM E (x)	UTM N (y)	Stratum	Stratig. comp. (SC)
X17	21/01/2019	Surface	-	-	283892.40	2724522.60	Surface	?
Taxon code	Taxon definition	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Thickness (mm)	Weight (g)	Raw material class		
Ht	Transversal point?	31.3	17.5	5.4	2.66	V		



Characterization. This item is a possible transversal point, made by edge modification on a primary transversal flake of coarse-grained pale-green limestone, but with a high degree of

erosion that prevents a proper appreciation of the morphology. The platform is intact, protruding out from the centre of the proximal edge. The platform is evidently isolated from the left, with a collapsed upper surface, and well-defined when observed from the ventral side. This side also presents a relatively uniform coating of calcite. The edges of the blank have been modified by percussion retouch all around the contour of the piece, with abrupt impacts applied from the direction of the dorsal face, and bulky scars visible on the ventral side. The basal



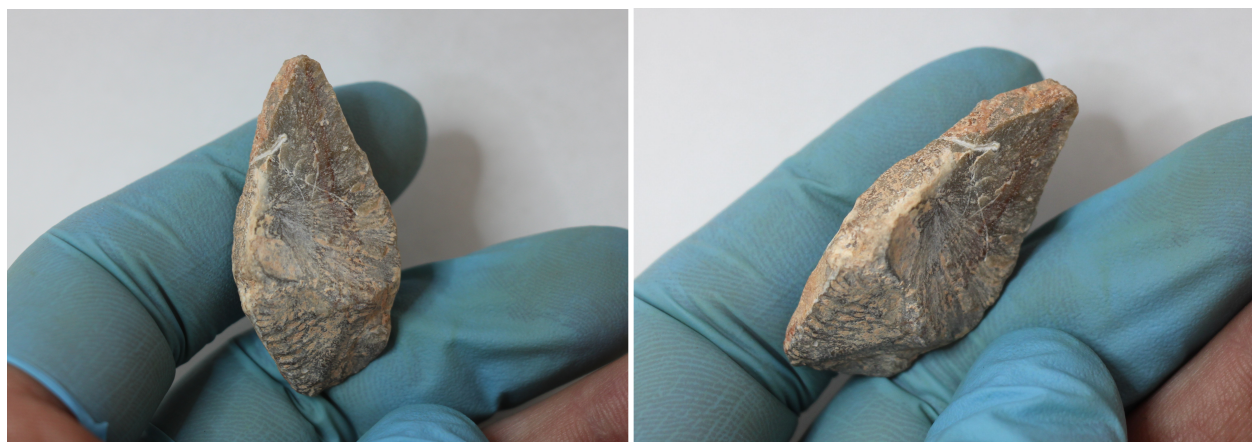
side of the point is angular, convergent, also produced by this method. The result is a laterally symmetrical shape, with edges eroded by post-depositional transformations.



**III.8. Taxon Hk: Bifacial point or preform**  
(1 item; #980)

**#980. Item no. 4419-17448**

Exc. nr.	Discovery date	Square-subsq.	Depth range Z(D)	Depth Z(datum)	UTM E (x)	UTM N (y)	Stratum	Stratig. comp. (SC)
X17	15/02/2019	C2	-	11.64	283892.81	2724522.08	1704/1705	B?
Taxon code	Taxon definition	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Thickness (mm)	Weight (g)	Raw material class		
Hk	Bifacial preform	39.3	19.3	7.7	7.46	V		





Characterization. This is a very important artefact, one of the most relevant in the whole Chiquihuite assemblage, both typologically and technologically, and even aesthetically. This is an advanced bifacial preform of a point, made on a tabular nodule of fine-grained green limestone. The tabular nodule, with a preexistent, naturally pointy shape, has been flaked bifacially in an alternating manner, using the square edges as platforms, in an aggressive approach similar to the technique we otherwise call the “square-edge management” approach. The extractions are mostly transversal flakes, with the imprint of their platforms visible on the margins of the square cortical edges. The thinned surfaces present certain degree of polish

and a fine uneven coating of sediment deposition. The lateral edges of the preform remain incipiently worked, while the basal end has already been thinned. This artefact reveals that the maker had remarkable skills in producing this advanced-stage preform heading towards the production of an actual bifacial tool.

