

CHAPTER 5. WORKED COBBLES—YAAMAT ALLUURNGASQAT

This group of tools includes objects manufactured from cobbles—typically waterworn pieces of greywacke, granite, sandstone, and pumice, or chunks of collected material like scoria or siltstone. Some pieces are formally shaped by chipping or pecking (Table 5.1). Others are unmodified stone used in tool manufacture. Unmodified pieces often show use wear—evidence they were employed to break apart, grind, or abrade materials or shape tools in production. This use wear can make an object look like a formally shaped tool. For example, tabular pieces of siltstone used as whetstones are often ground along the edges creating a rectangular object. The Alutiiq term for these groups of tools is *yaamat alluurngasqat*, altered rocks.

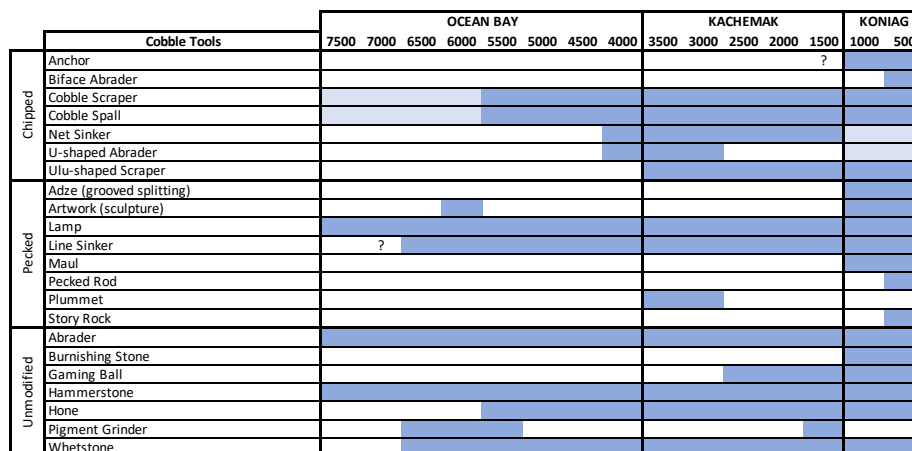
Table 5.1. Subclasses of cobble tools

Chipped Tools*	Pecked Tools	Unmodified Tools**
Anchor	Adze - grooved splitting	Abrader
Biface Abrader	Artwork / Sculpture	Burnishing Stone
Box Lid	Lamp	Gaming Ball
Cobble Scraper	Line Sinker	Hammerstone
Cobble Spall	Maul	Hearth / Box Slab
Net Sinker	Pecked Rod	Hone
U-shaped Abrader	Plummet	Line Weight
Ulu-shaped Scraper	Story Rock	Pigment Grinder
		Pigment Stone
		Whetstone

*Includes cobble debitage (cobble cores, cobble scrap)

**Unmodified pieces of stone employed as tools, often displaying use wear

Figure 5.1. Temporal distribution of cobble tools (debitage not included)



Cobble tools are widely present in Kodiak Alutiiq assemblages (Figure 5.1 and Table 5.2). Tools from each subclass (chipped, pecked, unmodified) occur throughout Alutiiq history including the historic period. Between the subclasses, however, there is some temporal patterning. Large pigment grinders (both the mano and metate pieces) are common in Ocean

Bay sites, but rare in later assemblages. Chipped cobble tools are common in Kachemak tradition sites due to the widespread use of cobble spalls for butchering tasks in the Early Kachemak and the widespread use of notched cobble net sinkers in the Late Kachemak. Similarly, the size and variety of pecked stone objects increases through time, with more and larger pecked stone objects in the Koniag tradition. In part, this reflects increases in the sizes of houses and boats built by craftspeople. Multi-roomed structures and large open skin boats required more woodworking and the shaping of larger elements. Mauls and grooved splitting adzes are added to tool assemblages at this time. In each subclass there is also temporal patterning in some tools.

Table 5.2. Alutiiq terms for cobble tools

English	Alutiiq	Comment
Chipped Cobble Tools—Ilaiyarngasqaq (chipped one)		
Anchor	Kicaq ^m	
Biface Abrader	Keligtusqak ^c (intentional dual)	“thing(s) for continually scraping”
Box Lid	Patuq ^m	
Cobble Core	Qukaa ^c	“It's middle/center”, for any type of core
Cobble Scrap	Calleg [*]	“piece of debris”
Cobble Scraper	K'ligsuuteq ^c	“carving tool”
Cobble Spall	Seg'suuteq ^c	butchering knife or fillet knife
Net Sinker (notched pebble)	Kitsuuteq ^c	
U-shaped Abrader	K'liguasuteq ^c	“kind of a carving tool”
Ulu-shaped Scraper	Uluqaruq ^c	“kind of an ulu”
Pecked Cobble Tools—Pu'ugturngasqaq (pecked one)		
Adze (grooved splitting)	TupuuRuq ^m	
Artwork (sculpture)	Canamasqaq ^c	“a made thing”
Lamp	Naniq ^m , Laam'paaq ^m	
Line Weight	Kicauteq ^m , Kitsuuteq ^c	
Maul	MuRut'uuruasinaq ^c , Mulut'uuruasinaq ^c , MuRut'uurpak ^c	“big hammer”
Pestle	Ciisuun ^c	
Plummet	Kitsuuteq ^c	
Rod	Ipegca'isuuteq ^c , Ip'gca'isuun ^c	“something to make an edge”
Story Rock	Quliyanguaqaq ^c	
Unmodified Cobble Tools		
Abrader	Rasqaq ^m	“hollowed one?”
Burnishing Stone	Rirsuuteq ^c	
Gaming Balls	Mayaciingcuk ^c	
Hammerstone	Mulut'uuk ^m , MuRut'uuk ^m	“hammer”
Hearth / Box Slab	Kenerwigem Estinaa ^c	“fireplace's wall”
Hone	Ipegca'isuuteq ^c , Ip'gca'isuun ^c	“something to make an edge”
Line Weight	Kicauteq ^m , Kitsuuteq ^c	
Pigment Grinder	Uiteram Ciisuut'ra [*]	“tool for grinding ochre”
Pigment Stone	Qetaq ^{h*}	term for paint, charcoal, ochre
Whetstone	Minguutaq ^m , ipegucaq ^m	“something to make an edge”

m = term in modern usage, h = historic term, c = term created by Elder Alutiiq speakers,

* = suggested term needing additional review

Chipped Cobble Tools—*Ilayarngasqaq* (chipped one)

The chipped cobble and chipped stone industries are both reductive. They rely on breaking apart stone to create sharp working edges. However, these industries also have distinct differences. Chipped stone tools are made of cryptocrystalline rocks that are roughly flaked and then shaped through more controlled forms of percussion. In contrast, chipped cobble tools are made of large pieces of granular stone, particularly greywacke. This material is roughly flaked but not finished further (Figure 5.2). The initial process of tool creation is the same for both industries, and both create a set of debitage that includes cores, flakes, and shatter. However, as the intended tools are different, we label analogous by-products with distinct names. Flakes of greywacke or chert are all technically flakes. However, we call unmodified greywacke flakes cobble spalls (a flake suitable for use) or cobble scrap (a flake not suitable for use). Only a flake of cryptocrystalline rock is called a flake.

Figure 5.2. Artifacts associated with cobble spall production.



Greywacke beach cobbles are the foundation of the chipped cobble industry. Other coarse-grained rocks are occasionally used, but greywacke is ubiquitous. Craftspeople reduced waterworn round or oblong beach cobbles into cobble spalls with a large hammerstone (generally another cobble). The sharp-edged cobble spall is the intended final product of this

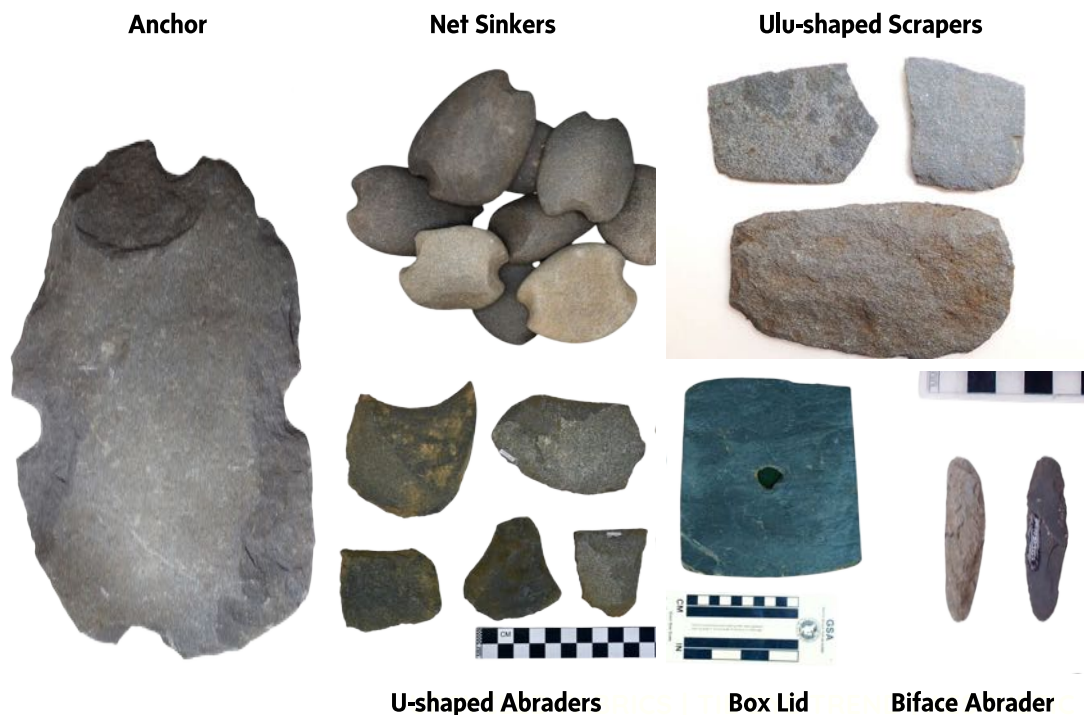
process. These tools are typically hand-sized with substantial amounts of cobble cortex. We classify examples that show use wear as split cobble scrapers. These easily produced tools from widely available material are the Swiss Army Knife of Alutiiq prehistory. They are useful for many cutting and scraping tasks and were widely used. Occasionally, cobble spalls were reduced further, retouched to create a shallow u-shaped edge that is often damaged by use. We call these tools ‘u-shaped abraders’ and suspect they were a form of scraper used on rounded objects, perhaps branches and/or animal bones.

This set of tools is strongly associated with the food drying and smoking activities of the Early Kachemak, particularly cod processing. In the Early Kachemak layers of the Horseshoe Cove site smoke-processing features were filled and surrounded with nothing but cobble tools and quantities of cod bones (Saltonstall and Steffian 2006).

Other chipped cobble tools are modestly shaped pebbles (Figure 5.3). For example, net sinkers, a very common artifact in Kachemak assemblages, are typically flat, oblong pebbles of greywacke or slate that have been chipped on their long ends. A couple of quick strikes to the end of the pebble produced a useful tool. Similarly, small, narrow greywacke pebbles are occasionally chipped all around their edge, creating the look of a rough biface. Based on use-wear, these appear to be some form of abraders. We call these tools biface abraders, and they are common in the Koniag tradition.

In short, chipped cobble tools are minimally worked pieces of locally abundant, waterworn, beach rock that have been transformed into utilitarian tools. They are widely present in prehistoric assemblages especially those of the Early Kachemak tradition.

Figure 5.3. Examples of chipped cobble tools.





Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names	Anchor	Alutiiq Names	Kicaq
----------------------	--------	----------------------	-------

Industry	Chipped Cobble	Activity	Boating	Function	Secure boat
-----------------	----------------	-----------------	---------	-----------------	-------------

Common Materials	Slate
-------------------------	-------

LxWxD (cm)	
-------------------	--

Tradition Ocean Bay Kachemak Koniag Alutiiq

Miniature	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No/Unknown	Example Sites Found	Karluk One
------------------	--	----------------------------	------------

Description	<p>These large slate slabs or grey wack cobbles are notched like a net sinker to hold a line. Some are notched just at the ends, others have notches on all four sides. These tools look like net sinkers, but they are much larger and heavier. The photo on the following page provides a comparison between a net sinker and an anchor to illustrate the size difference.</p>
--------------------	--

References	Steffian et al. 2015
-------------------	----------------------

Last Update	05/13/2021	Updated By	Amy Steffian
--------------------	------------	-------------------	--------------

Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Chipped Cobble Tools

ANCHOR



Greywacke anchor and net sinker from Karluk One compared.



Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names **Alutiiq Names**

Industry Chipped Cobble **Activity** Manufacturing **Function**

Common Materials

LxWxD (cm)

Tradition Ocean Bay Kachemak Koniag Alutiiq

Miniature Yes No/Unknown **Example Sites Found**

Description

This is a distinct class of chipped cobble tool, made by bifacially chipping the edges of small, narrow cobbles of greywacke bifaces. Only the edge of the cobble is worked, with cortex visible along both surfaces of the stone. These tools show edge utilization. They are blunted with bifacial wear that appears abrasive (hence the name). They may have been scrapers or wedges.

References

Last Update

Updated By

Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Chipped Cobble Tools

BIFACE ABRADER



Biface abraders from Karuk One (both photos).





Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names	Box Lid	Alutiiq Names	Patuq
----------------------	---------	----------------------	-------

Industry	Chipped Cobble	Activity	Cooking/Storage	Function	Covering an slate box
-----------------	----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------------

Common Materials	Slate
-------------------------	-------

LxWxD (cm)	
-------------------	--

Tradition	<input type="checkbox"/> Ocean Bay	<input type="checkbox"/> Kachemak	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Koniag	<input type="checkbox"/> Alutiiq
------------------	------------------------------------	-----------------------------------	--	----------------------------------

Miniature	<input type="radio"/> Yes	Example Sites Found	Settlement Point
	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No/Unknown		

Description	<p>These artifacts are trimmed slate shingles - pieces of slate that have been chipped into a square or rectangular shape with a roughly circular hole chipped through the center. Examples were found at the Settlement Point site on Afognak Island and at least one was covering a slate slab storage box. The pecked hole is presumably a hand hole, a place to insert fingers to lift the lid off a box. Much smaller box lids made from wood have a similar shape and a hole in the center for either a knob or a string.</p> <p>Another example of a lid from Settlement point has two slate slab pieces, each with a semi-circular grip hole. The pieces are trimmed to fit together.</p> <p>The manufacture of these tools is similar to the early stages of working slate for grinding, but box lids lack grinding.</p>
--------------------	---

References	Saltonstall, Patrick G., 1998, Cooking and Storage in the Early Koniag Period, A View from Settlement Point, Afognak Island. Paper presented at the 25th Annual meeting of the Alaska Anthropological Association, Anchorage.
-------------------	---

Last Update	05/19/2021
--------------------	------------

Updated By	Amy Steffian
-------------------	--------------

Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Chipped Cobble Tools

BOX LID



Slate box lids from Settlement Point (AM33)



Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names **Alutiiq Names**

Industry Chipped Cobble **Activity** Manufacturing **Function**

Common Materials

LxWxD (cm)

Tradition Ocean Bay Kachemak Koniag Alutiiq

Miniature Yes No/Unknown **Example Sites Found**

Description

Cobble cores are greywacke beach cobbles that display evidence of reduction. They have ben struck to remove large flakes, creating cobble spalls for use as expedient cutting and scraping tools or spalls for modification into U-shaped abraders. These include cobbles in various stages of reduction. Some have just a single flake removed. Others are expended; they have had multiple flakes remove leaving a nodules of greywacke from which additional large flakes cannot be struck. Cortex is commonly present on cobble cores.

References

Last Update

Updated By

Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Chipped Cobble Tools

COBBLE CORE



Cobble cores from the Kashevaroff site (AM724)



Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names **Alutiiq Names**

Industry Chipped Cobble **Activity** Manufacturing **Function**

Common Materials

LxWxD (cm)

Tradition Ocean Bay Kachemak Koniag Alutiiq

Miniature Yes No/Unknown **Example Sites Found**

Description

Cobble scrap is debitage—the by-product of producing cobble spalls. Cobble scrap generally displays some beach worn cortex from the source cobble, and angular fractured edges provides evidence of purposeful reduction.

The difference between cobble scrap and spalls is that scrap appears to be angular and unusable, while spalls tend to be discoidal and have a ‘useable’ edge that often shows use wear (cobble scraper). Cobble scrap is analogous to ‘shatter’ in the chipped stone tool category.

References

Last Update

Updated By

Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Chipped Cobble Tools

COBBLE SCRAP



Cobble scrap from the Kashevaroff Site, AM724



Cobble scrap (circled) in comparison to hammerstone, cores, spalls, and scrapers.



Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names	Cobble Scraper	Alutiiq Names	K'ligsuuteq—Carving tool
Industry	Chipped Cobble	Activity	Cooking/Storage
Function	Cutting and Scraping		
Common Materials	Greywacke		
LxWxD (cm)			
Tradition	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ocean Bay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kachemak	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Koniag <input type="checkbox"/> Alutiiq
Miniature	<input type="radio"/> Yes	Example Sites Found	Kashevaroff Site, Zaimka Mound, Horseshoe Cove
	<input type="radio"/> No/Unknown		
Description	<p>Cobble scrapers are found throughout Kodiak’s prehistoric record, and reflect the use of cobbles to create expedient cutting and scraping tools. Islanders knocked thick cortical flakes from water worn cobbles to create a sharp-edge spall. Some of these tools may be debitage from creating expedient flake knives from greywacke cobbles. Others appear to be actual knives (intentionally made pieces). Kodiak Alutiiq cobble scrapers are almost always made from greywacke.</p> <p>Cobble scrapers are cobble spalls that display use-wear. These tools are typically round to oval in shape and almost always have cobble cortex. They tend to be large (hand-sized or smaller) and easily grasped due to their size and the presence of smooth cortical surface on the dorsal side. They are distinct from other cutting tools in that they do not require a handle (e.g., slate knives, chipped stone knives).</p> <p>Also known as spit cobble scrapers.</p> <p>Many Alutiiq collections catalogs do not differentiate between cobble spalls (unused) and cobble scrapers (used), but use cobble scraper as a generic term for all large greywacke flakes suitable for use.</p>		
References	<p>Clark 1974:226, Plate 25</p> <p>Saltonstall, Patrick G. and Amy F. Steffian, 2006, The Archaeology of Horseshoe Cove, Occasional Papers in Alaskan Field Archaeology, Number 1. Bureau of Indian Affairs Alaska Region, Anchorage.</p>		
Last Update	05/19/2021	Updated By	Amy Steffian

Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Chipped Cobble Tools

COBBLE SCRAPER



Cobble scrapers from Karluk One (dorsal side up)



Coble scrapers from the Ayakulik River region of Kodiak (AM480)



Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names **Alutiiq Names**

Industry Chipped Cobble **Activity** Cooking/Storage **Function**

Common Materials

LxWxD (cm)

Tradition Ocean Bay Kachemak Koniag Alutiiq

Miniature Yes No/Unknown **Example Sites Found**

Description

Cobble spall are found throughout Kodiak’s prehistoric record, and reflect the use of water worn cobbles to create expedient cutting and scraping tools. Islanders knocked thick cortical flakes from cobbles to create sharp-edge spalls. These are essentially large flakes that do not show use wear. They are potential tools or the debitage from making cobble scrapers (spalls with use wear).

Spalls are typically round to oval and almost always have cobble cortex. They tend to be large (hand-sized or smaller) and easily grasped due to their size and the presence of smooth cortical surface on the dorsal side.

Many Alutiiq collections catalogs do not differentiate between cobble spalls (unused) and cobble scrapers (used), but use cobble scraper as a generic term for all large greywacke flakes suitable for use.

References

Last Update

Updated By

Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Chipped Cobble Tools

COBBLE SPALL



Greywacke cobble spalls from Salonie Mound

Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names

Net sinker / notched cobble

Alutiiq Names

Kitsuuteq

Industry

Chipped Cobble

Activity Fishing

Function

Net weight

Common
Materials

greywacke, slate

LxWxD (cm)

Tradition

Ocean Bay

Kachemak

Koniag

Alutiiq

Miniature

Yes

Example Sites Found

Outlet site, Old Karluk, Tsunami Site, Salmon Bend

No/Unknown

Description

Palm-sized, oval to sub-rectangular, water rounded cobbles chipped on both ends (bi-notched). Cobbles are flat or nearly flat. Chipping is often from both directions—both faces of the cobble are chipped on each narrow end to create a notch for tying the sinker to the base of a net. In some cases, notching creates a u-shaped indentation. In others, the ends of the cobble are simply blunted by chipping. Rarely, a sinker will have a third notch in the middle of one its long sides (Tri-notched). Expediently produced with a hammerstone.

Analogous to the lead line on a modern seine net.

A very common artifact type. Appears ca., 4,000 BP, in the Early Kachemak. The earliest examples are much larger than later examples. Net sinkers are most common in the Kachemak tradition but they are also found in Koniag sites.

Piles of small cobbles without notches are found in sites and may be net sinker preforms.

References

Clark, Donald W., 2008, Five Seasons with the Late Kachemak, Alaska Journal of Anthropology, 6(1&2):185-197.

Last Update

05/13/2021

Updated By

Amy Steffian

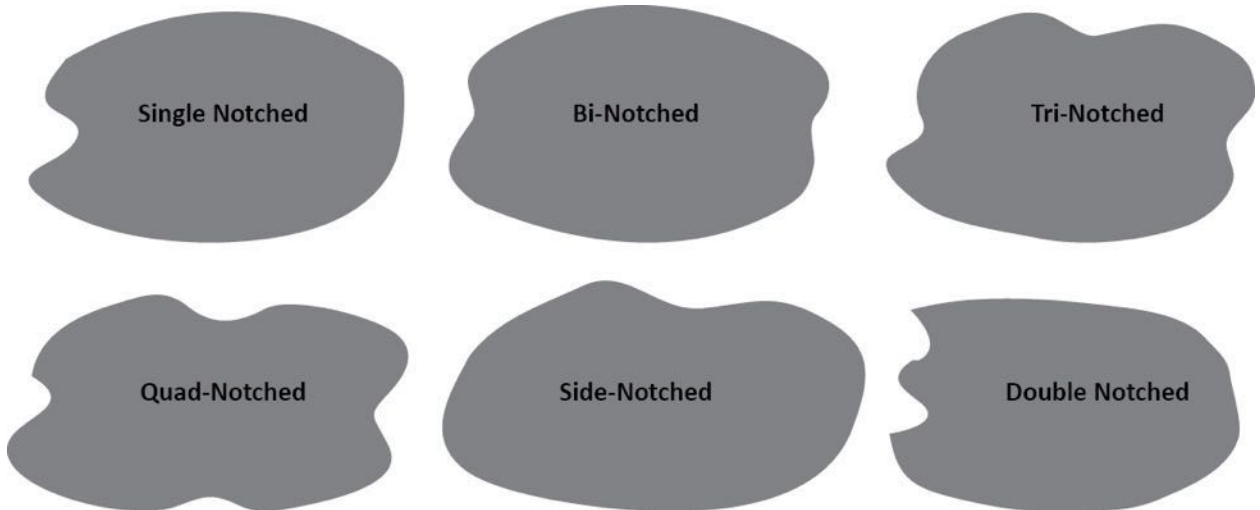
Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Chipped Cobble Tools

NET SINKER / NOTCHED COBBLE

Net Sinkers from KAR-310, Karluk Lake



Types of notching found on net sinkers in Alutiiq assemblages





Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names **Alutiiq Names**

Industry Chipped Cobble **Activity** Building/Woodworking **Function**

Common Materials

LxWxD (cm)

Tradition Ocean Bay Kachemak Koniag Alutiiq

Miniature Yes No/Unknown **Example Sites Found**

Description

U-shaped abraders are defined by Clark (1974b:85) as single-notched stone slabs. They are typically made from greywacke cobble spalls. They typically have relatively shallow, wide notches. Many tool have a single notch, but some have two or three on the same piece. However, the notch varies from a deep u to an almost flat edge. They usually exhibit evidence of both bifacial retouch and use wear. Many also have multiple notches, with u-shaped working edged on two side of the tool. They are a very common find in Early Kachemak era sites.

Early Kachemak specimens differ from those of the Koniag Era illustrated in Clark (1974b:plate 28). The Koniag examples tend to be made from slate and have deep, round notches. In contrast, older examples tend to be made on greywacke cobbles spalls and have shallow notches. The notch in the Early Kachemak specimens is 'bifacial' in nature indicating that the use-wear was in both directions. Both types (Koniag and Kachemak) were probably used as some sort of wood abrader – perhaps as spoke shaves, shaft abraders, or even tasks bark removal tools.

References

Last Update

Updated By

Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Chipped Cobble Tools

U-SHAPED ABRADER



U-shaped abraders from Salonie Mound, AM535

Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names	Ulu shaped scraper	Alutiiq Names	Ulukamasqaq K'ligsuun—Ulu-like scraper
Industry	Chipped Stone	Activity	Manufacturing
		Function	Hide working?
Common Materials	Greywacke, Coarse Slate		
LxWxD (cm)	5 - 11 cm long		
Tradition	<input type="checkbox"/> Ocean Bay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kachemak	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Koniag <input type="checkbox"/> Alutiiq
Miniature	<input type="radio"/> Yes	Example Sites Found	Outlet, Uyak, Rolling Bay, Kiavak, Afognak
	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No/Unknown		
Description	<p>Ulu shaped tools look like ulus, but were obviously not intended to be sharpened. They are made from materials like greywacke that do not hold a ground edge. They are not made on conchoidally flaked spalls off of greywacke cobbles (see cobble spalls above) but from tabular pieces created because of the natural schistocity or cleavage of the material. The edge of these pieces is often wor smooth with bifacial use. Like the ulus, there are specimens with both straight and curved edges.</p> <p>This category of artifact has long been recognized in the Alutiiq culture area, but has been classified a variety of terms and attributed many different functions. De Laguna (1934: plate 20, 35 & 56) illustrates them as 'boulder chips' and 'chipped slate scrapers', or 'stone saws' (1934: plate 22). All three categories seem to subsume what we have termed ulu-shaped scrapers. In describing archaeological materials from Prince William Sound, de Laguna (1956: Plate 16) describes them as 'stone saws' and 'ulu shaped scrapers'. Heizer (1956: plate 42a,b,c,f) in his write up of Hrdlicka's excavation of the Uyak site, seems to illustrate 'ulu shaped tools' but calls these pieces 'chipped and unpolished ulus' (1956:49, type IIIa); many of these might also be what we would term ulu preforms. He also describes (1956:46) but does not illustrate a 'stone saw' that sounds much like an 'ulu-shaped tool'. Donald Clark (1974: Plate 27), describing Koniag materials from the Rolling Bay and Kiavak sites, illustrates them as 'ulu-shaped scrapers'. In the same report he also illustrates (1974; plate 25) stone saws. His criteria for distinguishing between the two seems to be a curved (ulu shaped scrapers) vs. straight blade edge (stone saws). In any case, these tools have been found in both Kachemak and Koniag contexts and seem to be extremely common, whatever their function.</p>		
References	<p>Clark, D. W., 1974 Heizer, R., 1956</p>		
Last Update	05/19/2021	Updated By	Amy Steffian

Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Chipped Cobble Tools

ULU-SHAPED SCRAPERS



Ulu-shaped Scrapers from Karluk One, AM193

Pecked Cobble Tools—*Pu'ugturngasqaq* (pecked one)

This group of cobble tools includes pieces shaped by repeated percussion (Table 5.2, Figure 5.4). Craftspeople used stones to systematically hammer another stone. This pecking process removed tiny flecks of material and shaped objects. The flecks are so small that there is no recoverable debitage associated with this form of cobble working, although preform pieces and hammerstones used for pecking are present. Greywacke is a commonly pecked material, but this part of the cobble industry also includes tools made from granite. Tonalite, a light, greenish grey granite that occurs in dykes around the archipelago was often used for lamps.

Unlike chipped cobble tools, which are quickly made and frequently discarded, pecked stone tool production requires more time, energy, and persistence. Pecking experiments by Sven Haakanson (2019) indicate this is a slow process. They also suggest that craftspeople used two stones. A hammerstone pounded against a pecking stone appears to be the most effective pecking method. There are fewer pecked cobble tools than chipped cobble tools in ancestral Alutiiq sites. We suspect that tools, like lamps, that took many hours to create were specially stored for later use or carried by people as they moved between settlements.

Figure 5.4. Examples of pecked cobble tools.



Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names	Splitting Adze		Alutiiq Names	TupuuRuq	
Industry	Pecked Cobble	Activity	Building/Woodworking	Function	Splitting logs
Common Materials	Granite, Schist				
LxWxD (cm)	13 to 30 cm long				
Tradition	<input type="checkbox"/> Ocean Bay	<input type="checkbox"/> Kachemak	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Koniag	<input type="checkbox"/> Alutiiq	
Miniature	<input type="radio"/> Yes	Example Sites Found	Karluk One		
	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No/Unknown				
Description	<p>These adzes are large, heavy pieces typically pecked from water worn cobbles of granite, schist, or other very hard stone. Craftspeople took advantage of naturally shaped cobbles and then pecked and ground them to shape. Splitting adzes have at least one (and up to three) grooves along the dorsal (top side), which facilitated hafting to a wooden handle.</p> <p>There are two basic shapes of splitting adzes in the Karluk One assemblage, D-shaped and shoe-shaped. The D-shape has a flat bottom and a gently arched top with grooved pecked into the body of the piece. They tend to be long and narrow. Shoe-shaped splitting adzes have pecked ridges on the dorsal surface that stand up above the plane of the dorsal surface (like the opening of a sneaker). They tend to be short and thick in comparison with D-shape forms. Both types have a ground v-shaped working edge (distal tip is v-shaped in cross section).</p> <p>These are sturdy artifacts used to split logs and perhaps large pieces of bone. They are found only in the Koniag tradition, and appear in the archaeological record at a time when boats and houses expand in size, requiring larger wooden elements.</p>				
References	Steffian et al. 2015				
Last Update	05/13/2021		Updated By	Amy Steffian	

Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Pecked Cobble Tools

PECKED SPLITTING ADZE



Pecked Adzes from Karluk One



Top Left: Shoe-shaped splitting adzes.

Bottom Left: D-shaped splitting adzes

All from Karluk One



Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names **Alutiiq Names**

Industry Pecked Cobble **Activity** Celebrations **Function**

Common Materials

LxWxD (cm)

Tradition Ocean Bay Kachemak Koniag Alutiiq

Miniature Yes No/Unknown **Example Sites Found**

Description

Sculpted stone is present throughout Kodiak's archaeological record. People pecked stone into useful shapes and in some cases added artistic sculptural elements to functional objects. Late Kachemak lamps are a well-known example. A selection of these pecked stone tool have surface designs pecked in relief, as well as three-dimensional sculptures in there bowls. We consider decorated tools separate from this class of object which is reserved for art pieces—three-dimensional sculptures that are not identifiable tools. These objects are very rare and highly variable.

References

Last Update

Updated By

Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Pecked Cobble Tools

STONE SCULPTURE



Pecked Sandstone Figurine from Chirikof Island



Pecked Granite face from Karluk

Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Pecked Cobble Tools



Pecked, ground and incised sandstone object from Rice Ridge



Pecked stone object from Rice Ridge

Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names	Lamp	Alutiiq Names	Naniq, Laam'paaq
Industry	Pecked Cobble	Activity	Manufacturing
		Function	Household light and heat
Common Materials	Sandstone, Granite (tonalite), Greywacke		
LxWxD (cm)			
Tradition	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ocean Bay	<input type="checkbox"/> Kachemak	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Koniag <input type="checkbox"/> Alutiiq
Miniature	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	Example Sites Found	Zaimka Mound, Kashevaroff site, Uyak site, Karluk One
	<input type="radio"/> No/Unknown		
Description	<p>Pecked oil lamps are found in Alutiiq sites from all time periods. The earliest lamps are typically made from sandstone cobbles and they are carefully shaped inside and out. These early lamps are boat shaped (a long triangle with one straight and one pointed end, like a skiff). They are burned down each side of the their bowl indicating that they had multiple wicks along the edges. This is also typical of East Arctic oil lamps and reflects a lack of wood – houses had to be both heated and illuminated with a stone oil lamp. In later times, Alutiiq lamps had only one wick set on a wick shelf at the tip of the lamp. By this time there was more wood available. Houses typically have large hearths for heating and cooking, and lamps were only used for light.</p> <p>In the Ocean Bay tradition, boat shaped lamps were replaced by oval lamps pecked from harder rocks such as greywacke and a greenish grey granite known as tonalite. These tools vary a great deal in size but typically have a thin, rounded rim. Many late Ocean Bay and Early Kachemak lamps are simply made. They have a pecked bowl on the surface of an otherwise unmodified waterworn beach cobble. There are also fist-sized lamps that were designed to be carried by travelers.</p> <p>Over time, Alutiiq lamps become larger and more carefully shaped. The insides and outsides of the lamps show pecking. Late Kachemak era lamps are frequently decorated (see Heizer 1956). Bas-relief designs that are geometric, anthropomorphic, and zoomorphic were pecked into the bottoms and sides of the lamp. These lamps may also have. The protuberances inside of the bowl likely would have stuck up above the oil and might have served as a wick rest. Some of these lamps are enormous. They are clearly made from beach cobble</p> <p>Koniag tradition lamps are easily recognized by their very standardized oval shape with a flat, wide rims up to 4 cm across. They occur in many sizes, from truly enormous examples to toy-sized pieces, and look remarkably like early 20th century bed pans. These lamps also have a distinctive wick shelf at the front – a wide and flat notch pecked through the rim. These lamps are only rarely decorated with motifs on their outer bowls.</p>		
References	<p>Heizer, Robert, 1956, Archaeology of the Uyak Site, Kodiak Island, Alaska. University of California Press, Berkeley.</p> <p>Steffian, A. F., editor, 2018, Igaruacirpet—Our way of making designs, Alutiiq Museum, Kodiak.</p>		
Last Update	05/13/2021	Updated By	Amy Steffian

Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Pecked Cobble Tools

LAMPS



Boat-shaped Ocean Bay lamps of sandstone from Zaimka Mound and the Kashevaroff site.



Miniature lamps from Karluk One (AM193)

Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Pecked Cobble Tools



Decorated lamp from Afognak Island—style suggests a Kachemak piece.



Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Pecked Cobble Tools

Stone lamp with bas-relief carving on the bottom showing the head of a seal. The rim-style of this lamp suggests a Koniag tradition piece. AM925.



Koniag tradition lamps from Karluk One



Simply made lamps and a lamp preform from Karluk One (top row, AM193) and a lamp preform from Nunakakhnak (center, AM257).

Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names	Line Weight	Alutiiq Names	Kicauteq, Kitsuuteq
Industry	Pecked Cobble	Activity	Fishing
		Function	Line Weight
Common Materials	Granite, Greywacke		
LxWxD (cm)			
Tradition	<input type="checkbox"/> Ocean Bay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kachemak	<input type="checkbox"/> Koniag <input type="checkbox"/> Alutiiq
Miniature	<input type="radio"/> Yes	Example Sites Found	Zaimka Mound, Little Island site, Blisky site
	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No/Unknown		
Description	<p>Line weights are found throughout Kodiak's archaeological record and are thought to be for marine fishing—sinking a rig to the ocean floor. They are commonly made from waterworn granite and greywacke beach cobbles and pecked with a variety of grooves to hold a line. One example, found at Karluk One, had a thick piece of kelp set into the groove, perhaps to help keep a line secure.</p> <p>Line weights tend to be about fist-sized with one or more pecked groove across either their long or short axis. We identified at least four varieties in the museum's collections.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) One pecked groove encircling the cobble. This groove is typically along the long axis of the cobble, but a few examples have a groove around their width (short axis) 2) Pecked grooves at either end of the cobble. These sinkers don't have a groove encircling the entire cobble. Instead, they have pecked grooves on the end a small way down the face of the cobble on either side of the end. Most have grooves at the ends of the long axis, but a few have 4 grooves - one at the center of each axis. 3) An encircling groove around the width of the cobble and a groove at one end - perhaps to suspend the sinker like a plummet. 4) A small pecked notch at the long ends of the cobble, sometimes with chipping too. 		
References	Clark, Donald. W., 1997. The Early Kachemak Phase on Kodiak Island at Old Kiavak. Archaeological Survey of Canada, Mercury Series, Paper 155. Canadian Museum of Civilization, Hull.		
Last Update	05/22/2021	Updated By	Amy Steffian

Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Pecked Cobble Tools

LINE WEIGHT



Groove around horizontal axis

Groove around vertical axis

Line weights with an encircling groove from Karluk One (AM193)



Four pecked grooves – ends and sides

Two pecked grooves - ends

Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Pecked Cobble Tools

Line weights with end and side grooves from Karluk One (AM193)



Line weights with a groove around the horizontal axis and over the end Karluk One (AM193).



Minimalist line weights—with a small pecked and/or chipped notch at the ends from Settlement Point (AM33)



Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names **Alutiiq Names**

Industry Pecked Cobble **Activity** Building/Woodworking **Function**

Common Materials

LxWxD (cm)

Tradition Ocean Bay Kachemak Koniag Alutiiq

Miniature Yes No/Unknown **Example Sites Found**

Description

These tools were used a hammers to drive wedges for splitting logs and pound stakes. They are typically heavy and made of granite, although greywacke examples are also found. They are temporally diagnostic, occurring in late prehistoric Koniag tradition sites. The Alutiiq term for these tools means “big hammer”.

Like line weights, mauls are water worn cobbles with pecked grooves. The difference is that mauls tend to have a groove around three sides —both long axes and across one end. On the other end, the cobble is pecked flat and features a small knob (nipple-like) in the center. These features are presumably for hafting to a sturdy wooden handle. Many mauls have one flat side on their long axes for pounding.

A few examples have pecked decorations, including an example shown on the next page that features a face of a bird.

References

Last Update

Updated By

Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Pecked Cobble Tools

MAULS



Mauls from Karluk One (AM193)



Decorated Maul from Karluk One (AM193) with the face of a bird



Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names	Pestle	Alutiiq Names	Ciisuun
----------------------	--------	----------------------	---------

Industry	Pecked Cobble	Activity	Cooking/Storage	Function	Grinding and mashing
-----------------	---------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	----------------------

Common Materials	Greywacke
-------------------------	-----------

LxWxD (cm)	ca. 11 cm tall
-------------------	----------------

Tradition Ocean Bay Kachemak Koniag Alutiiq

Miniature	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No/Unknown	Example Sites Found	Pestikoff Collection (AM)
------------------	---	----------------------------	---------------------------

Description	<p>A small pestle, shaped like a stove pipe hat, is pecked from greywacke. This is a rare artifact and it is likely that the manufacturer took advantage of a similarly shaped beach cobble to create this tools. Pestles from the Koniag tradition is similarly shaped and made of wood.</p> <p>This tool features a wide, flat base (distal end) that tapers to a cylindrical handle with a round cross section. The edges of the top of the handle (proximal end) of the handle are rounded and the top is slightly convex.</p>
--------------------	--

References	This manual.
-------------------	--------------

Last Update	08/02/2021	Updated By	Amy Steffian
--------------------	------------	-------------------	--------------

Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Pecked Cobble Tools

PESTLE

Pecked stone pestle from the Pestrikoff Collection





Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names	Pummet	Alutiiq Names	Itsuuteq
----------------------	--------	----------------------	----------

Industry	Pecked Cobble	Activity	Fishing	Function	Line Weight
-----------------	---------------	-----------------	---------	-----------------	-------------

Common Materials	Greywacke
-------------------------	-----------

LxWxD (cm)	
-------------------	--

Tradition	<input type="checkbox"/> Ocean Bay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kachemak	<input type="checkbox"/> Koniag	<input type="checkbox"/> Alutiiq
------------------	------------------------------------	--	---------------------------------	----------------------------------

Miniature	<input type="radio"/> Yes	Example Sites Found	Zaimka Mound, Little Island site, Blisky site
	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No/Unknown		

Description	<p>Plummets are oblong, waterworn beach cobbles with a groove pecked around the top of one end. Sometimes the groove simply encircles the top of the cobble (like the groove on a line weight). On other plummets the groove is enhanced to create a distinctive, small knob at the top of the cobbled.</p> <p>These tools are thought to be line weights for marine fishing and they are temporally diagnostic. They are found only in the Early Kachemak tradition. They are typically made of greywacke and range widely in size and weight.</p>
--------------------	---

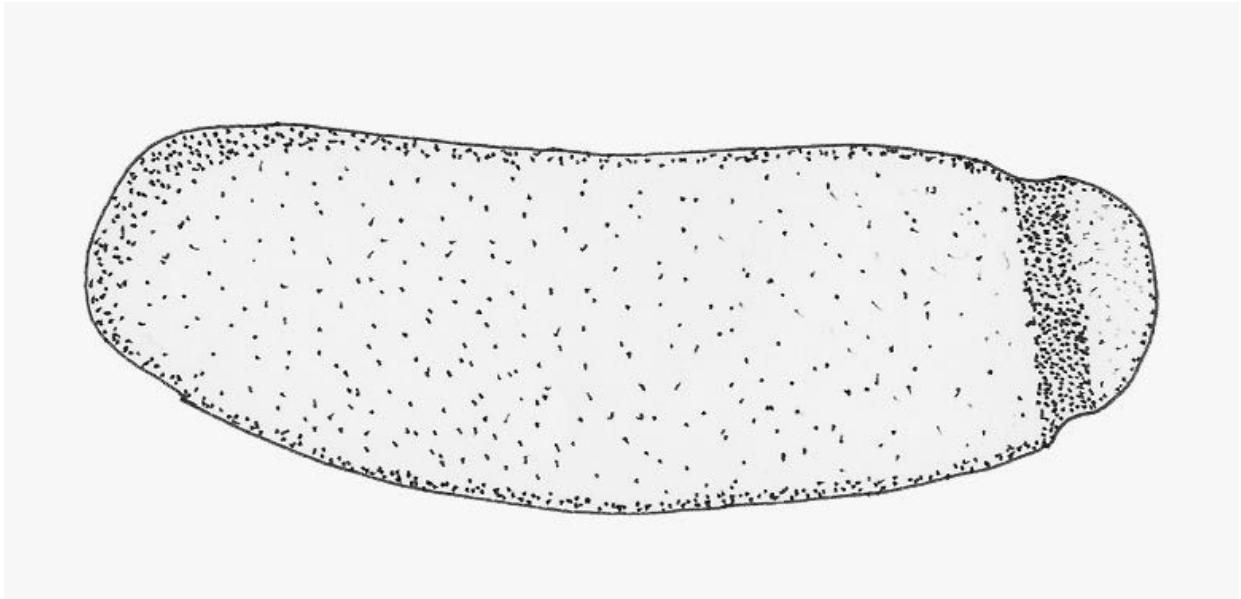
References	Clark, Donald. W., 1997. The Early Kachemak Phase on Kodiak Island at Old Kiavak. Archaeological Survey of Canada, Mercury Series, Paper 155. Canadian Museum of Civilization, Hull.
-------------------	--

Last Update	05/22/2021
--------------------	------------

Updated By	Amy Steffian
-------------------	--------------

Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Pecked Cobble Tools

PLUMMETS



Grooved plummet from the Blisky site



Knobbed plummets from Zaimka Mound (left), and the Little Island Site (Right)

Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Pecked Cobble Tools



Plummets preforms (early stage of manufacture) from Little Island and Mitk'sqaq Angayaq sites.



Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names **Alutiiq Names**

Industry Pecked Cobble **Activity** Manufacturing **Function**

Common Materials

LxWxD (cm)

Tradition Ocean Bay Kachemak Koniag Alutiiq

Miniature Yes No/Unknown **Example Sites Found**

Description

This is a distinctive tool type identified at the KAR-310 site in 2019, a late Koniag tradition fish camp at the outlet to Karluk Lake. The function of these tools is unknown. However, these objects are long narrow pieces of greywacke and slate pecked along at least two sides of their length. This pecking appears deliberate, designed to rough up the edges of the stone. It is uniform along the edges and concentrated in a couple of locations like the damage incurred by using a hammerstone. Perhaps these are some form of line weight, pecked to improve attachment of a line?

References

Last Update

Updated By

Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Pecked Cobble Tools

PECKED RODS



Pecked Rods from KAR-310, Karluk Lake



Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names **Alutiiq Names**

Industry Pecked Cobble **Activity** Festival **Function**

Common Materials

LxWxD (cm)

Tradition Ocean Bay Kachemak Koniag Alutiiq

Miniature Yes No/Unknown **Example Sites Found**

Description

This large rock / small boulder was collected from the beach by the Karluk One site. It had fourteen pecked, circular pits (ranging from 2 to 7 cm) and one natural hole. The pits are shallow, cupped depressions and pitting marks from their manufacture are visible.

This artifact strongly resembles pitted petroglyphs - cupped depressions pecked into stationary boulders around the coast of Kodiak.

The function of this object is unknown, but a Russian source mentions a stone painted with red spots used in a traditional performance at a winter festival.

References

Last Update

Updated By

Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Pecked Cobble Tools

STORY ROCK



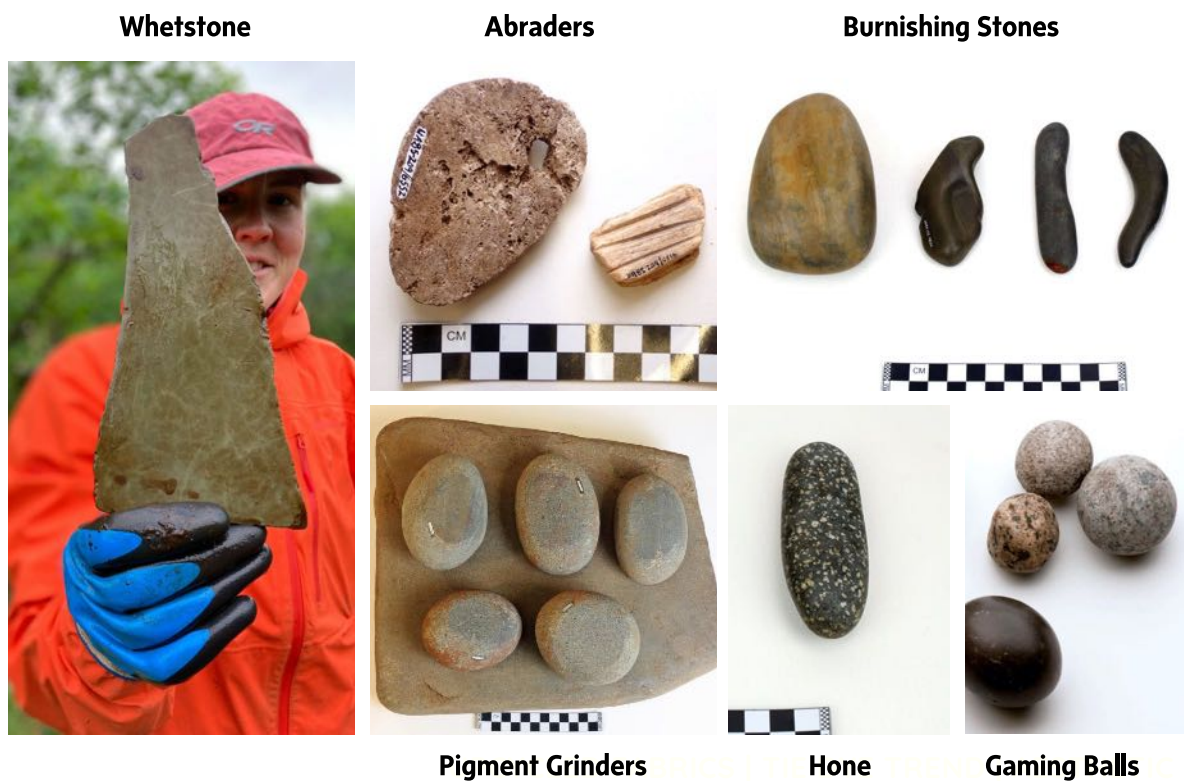
Story Rock from Karluk One (AM193).

Unmodified Cobble Tools

This group of cobble tools includes pieces of naturally occurring stone employed in tool making (Table 5.2, Figure 5.5). These pieces are not modified before use, but they are typically altered from use. Hammerstones are a common example. Alutiiq craftspeople selected water-rounded beach cobbles of greywacke to use in chipping and pecking other types of tools. Often, these cobbles show battering at their ends or along their edges, indicating they were used to break apart chert nodules or greywacke cobbles. Another common find are pieces of stone that have been worn by abrading—chunks of fine-grained rock like siltstone and sandstone that illustrate tools were rubbed against their surfaces to shape and sharpen.

Sometimes pieces of unmodified stone will not show use-wear. These may be intended or lightly used tools. However, their presence in an archaeological site, out of their naturally occurring context, indicates they were carried to the location for a purpose. We record such pieces as tools based on knowledge of their used equivalents. For example, a piece of pumice that does not show signs of abrading is classified as an abraders based on its assumed purpose.

Figure 5.5. Examples of unmodified cobble tools.





Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names **Alutiiq Names**

Industry Other Inorganic **Activity** Manufacturing **Function**

Common Materials

LxWxD (cm)

Tradition Ocean Bay Kachemak Koniag Alutiiq

Miniature Yes No/Unknown **Example Sites Found**

Description

Abraders are pieces of gritty stone, usually sandstone, pumice, or scoria, that were used like sandpaper to smooth the surface of objects. These tools are common and found throughout the prehistoric record. They are irregularly shaped and variable in size.

Pumice pieces that have been used for abrading will display one of more flat surfaces, as the material wears down quickly.

Sandstone pieces show two types of wear. Some are dished from sanding. Others have distinct grooves, where an object like a needle, an awl, a harpoon, a shaft, etc. has been rubbed against the object creating channels in the material. Sometimes pieces of sandstone will become faceted or even rectangular from heavy use.

References

Last Update

Updated By

Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Unmodified Cobble Tools

ABRADER

Left: Abraders, Old Karluk (AM258); Right: Pumice and scoria abraders, Amak Site (AM544)



Large sandstone abrader, Uyak site (AM3)





Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names **Alutiiq Names**

Industry Other Inorganic **Activity** Manufacturing **Function**

Common Materials

LxWxD (cm)

Tradition Ocean Bay Kachemak Koniag Alutiiq

Miniature Yes No/Unknown **Example Sites Found**

Description

These artifacts are typically made of water worn pebbles of a very smooth, distinctly banded, olive green to grey stone. They fit nicely in the hand and are oblong. They are thought to be burnishing tools—objects used to smooth the surface of caved bone and wooden objects by flattening (but not scratching) the grain of the material, or used as a hone to put a final edge on a cutting tool. The tips of these stones often exhibit battering from light use as a hammerstone. It is impossible to differentiate hones from burnishing stones and they were both probably used inter-changeably.

These tools are found in the Koniag tradition assemblages.

References

Last Update

Updated By

Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Pecked Cobble Tools

BURNISHING STONE



Burnishing stones from Karluk One (AM193)



Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names **Alutiiq Names**

Industry Pecked Cobble **Activity** Gaming **Function**

Common Materials

LxWxD (cm)

Tradition Ocean Bay Kachemak Koniag Alutiiq

Miniature Yes No/Unknown **Example Sites Found**

Description

Gaming balls are spherical pieces of stone or clay thought to have been used in a tossing game—like yaamaq or kakangaq. They tend to occur in archaeological sites in clusters. Most are unmodified spheres of greywacke and granite—water worn stones likely collected from the beach. However, a small number of these pieces are molded clay. The clay examples are also spherical and appear unfired. They are lumps of clay made into balls and dried. Craftspeople probably added water to the clay to make it maleable. There is no evidence of temper.

References

Last Update

Updated By

GAMING BALLS

Gaming Balls from Karluk One.





Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names	Hammerstone	Alutiiq Names	Mulut'uuk; MuRut'uuk — Hammer
Industry	Chipped Stone	Activity	Manufacturing
		Function	Hammer
Common Materials	Slate, greywacke, metatuff, rhyolite, granite		
LxWxD (cm)			
Tradition	<input type="checkbox"/> Ocean Bay	<input type="checkbox"/> Kachemak	<input type="checkbox"/> Koniag
			<input type="checkbox"/> Alutiiq
Miniature	<input type="radio"/> Yes	Example Sites Found	Old Kiavak, Kumluk, Karluk One, Salonie Mound
	<input type="radio"/> No/Unknown		
Description	<p>Alutiiq hammerstones are generally beach worn cobbles with at least one battered edge. They are classified according to size, shape, and use wear. We recognize four types based on the use of hammerstones in different stone working industries—slate working, cobble tool production, flint knapping, and net sinker notch creation.</p> <p>(1) Large cobbles are used as hammerstones for working greywacke cobbles and creating spalls.</p> <p>(2) Small round hammerstones were used to chip cryptocrystalline rocks. These tools often show battering on the end. This class can overlap with the large hammerstone used to break apart cobbles.</p> <p>(3) Oblong, rod like hammerstones were used to break slate as a first stage in making ground stone tools (preform shaping) and may also have been used as tools for pecking cobbles. These hammerstones usually have battering at the tips – or just down from the tip on the side .</p> <p>(4) A less common types of hammerstone was used to notch beach pebbles to make net sinkers. These are thin slate or greywacke beach shingles with battering wear along the thin edge. However, given the relatively few hammerstones found at these sites that are capable of creating a thin notch most net sinkers were probably created by battering the notch of one netsinker against the notch of another.</p> <p>(5) The final hammerstone category is used for bipolar reduction (either red ochre nodules, slate or chalcedony). It is a slate or greywacke cobble that is flat on one side – in the middle of the flat side there are battering marks. Obviously the hammerstone was used to pound something – probably a piece of slate to create thin sheets of slate suitable for the production of ground slate tools, or, possibly in a late prehistoric site, a chalcedony nodule to create sharp shards.</p>		
References	This manual		
Last Update	05/22/2021	Updated By	Amy Steffian

Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Unmodified Cobble Tools

HAMMERSTONES



Small round hammerstones for flint knapping from Old Harbor (AM711) and Old Kiavak (AM597)



Large greywacke hammerstone for cobble working from Salonie Mount (AM535) – battered on end and side



Oblong greywacke hammerstone for slate working (AM711)



Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names	Hearth / Box Slab	Alutiiq Names	
Industry	Other Inorganic	Activity	Cooking/Storage
		Function	Building household features
Common Materials	Slate		
LxWxD (cm)			
Tradition	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ocean Bay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kachemak	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Koniag <input type="checkbox"/> Alutiiq
Miniature	<input type="radio"/> Yes	Example Sites Found	Settlement Point, Flies and Grass, Uyak Site
	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No/Unknown		
Description	<p>Alutiiq craftsmen used Kodiak's sturdy, widely available slate as a building material, employing naturally occurring slabs for a variety of building purposes. These slabs are typically thick and untrimmed, although a few may display some evidence of shaping through rough chipping. These slabs were used to line floors, build storage boxes, create hearths and slate slab feature, and even sometimes cap a burial or cache pit. They are found in sites dating from the middle of the Ocean Bay traditions to the historic period.</p> <p>Slate slabs have not typically been collected by archaeologists, but there are some examples in the Alutiiq Museum's collections—for example, a slate slab storage box from Settlement Point.</p>		
References	Saltonstall, Patrick G., 1998, Cooking and Storage in the Early Koniag Period, A View from Settlement Point, Afognak Island. Paper presented at the 25th Annual meeting of the Alaska Anthropological Association, Anchorage.		
Last Update	05/29/2021	Updated By	Amy Steffian

Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Unmodified Cobble Tools

HEARTH / BOX SLAB



Slate slabs lining a hearth at the Flies and Grass site (KAR-276; AM571).



Slate slab box with a two-piece lid from Settlement Point (AM33)



Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names **Alutiiq Names**

Industry Chipped Cobble **Activity** Manufacturing **Function**

Common Materials

LxWxD (cm)

Tradition Ocean Bay Kachemak Koniag Alutiiq

Miniature Yes No/Unknown **Example Sites Found**

Description

These common tools are used to shape and sharpen the edges of ground stone tools. They are typically long, narrow, waterworn cobbles of greywacke or granite—unmodified rod-shaped pieces that fit nicely in the hand. Some show use wear—striated or polished areas on the surface where they have been used to abrader other tools. Hones made of softer material like slate may exhibit facets from abrading. There is another, distinctive type of hone - slate rods that appear to have been ground to shape (see ground stone).

References

Last Update

Updated By

Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Pecked Cobble Tools

HONE



Hones from Karluk One (AM193)



Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names

Line Weight / Jig Weight

Alutiiq Names

Kicauteq, Kitsuuteq

Industry

Ground Stone

Activity Fishing

Function

Line weight

Common Materials

Slate, sandstone

LxWxD (cm)

Tradition

Ocean Bay

Kachemak

Koniag

Alutiiq

Miniature

Yes

Example Sites Found

No/Unknown

Outlet site, Karluk One, Settlement Point

Description

Another type of line weight, found at Karluk One, is a small greywacke pebble with a natural hole through the center. The hole has a lining of birch bark to help secure a line.

References

Knecht, Richard A., 1995, The Late Prehistory of the Alutiiq People: Culture Change on the Kodiak Archipelago from 1200–1750 AD. PhD dissertation, Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA.

Last Update

05/31/2021

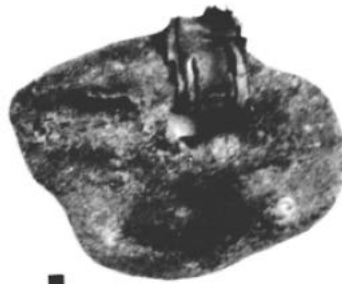
Updated By

Amy Steffian

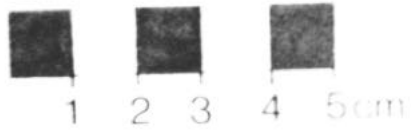
Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Cobble Tools: Unmodified

LINE WEIGHT

Greywacke pebble from Karluk One with a natural hole through the center and a lining of birch bark.



J



Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names	Ochre Grinder	Alutiiq Names	Uiteram Ciiwia
Industry	Other Inorganic	Activity	Manufacturing
		Function	Grinding pigment
Common Materials	Greywacke		
LxWxD (cm)			
Tradition	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ocean Bay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kachemak	<input type="checkbox"/> Koniag <input type="checkbox"/> Alutiiq
Miniature	<input type="radio"/> Yes	Example Sites Found	KOD-1130
	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No/Unknown		
Description	<p>Pigment grinders are two-piece tools. They include slabs of hard stone like greywacke (a tablet) on which pigment was ground with hand-held cobbles (a grinder) of greywacke or granite. The hand held grinders range in size from a round pebble that fits in the palm to a hand-size beach cobble. Both part of these tools who extensive use-wear from grinding. The slab (tablet) often has a dished area and abrasion marks from grinding. Large, greywacke grinders are characteristic of the Ocean Bay tradition and typically have at least one flat surface. Sometimes, there are opposing ground surfaces (e.g., top and bottom, making the tool look a bit like a hockey puck. Small, spherical grinders from the Transitional Kachemak deposits at KAR-065 have grounding around their circumference, suggesting they were rolled, perhaps with the palm, to crush small pieces of pigment. Some of these also have pitting that may represent damage from breaking apart a piece of pigment for grinding.</p> <p>Pigment - e.g., ochre, molybdenite - may be stuck to the cobbles. This is particularly true of examples from Ocean Bay tradition sites.</p>		
References	<p>Steffian, Amy F., and Patrick G. Saltonstall 2014 Prehistoric Settlements of the Midway Bay Peninsula, Old Harbor, Alaska. Report prepared for the Old Harbor Native Corporation. Alutiiq Museum and Archaeological Repository, Kodiak.</p>		
Last Update	05/22/2021	Updated By	Amy Steffian

Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Unmodified Cobble Tools

PIRGMENT GRINDER



Ochre Grinder (base and handheld grinding stones) from Old Harbor area (AM711)



Pigment grinders (base and handheld grinding stone) from KAR-065 (AM1004)



Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names **Alutiiq Names**

Industry Other Inorganic **Activity** Manufacturing **Function**

Common Materials

LxWxD (cm)

Tradition Ocean Bay Kachemak Koniag Alutiiq

Miniature Yes No/Unknown **Example Sites Found**

Description

Small pieces of ochre, molybdenite and other soft materials were ground to create paint. Pieces of ground pigment appear in sites. They are typically small with one or more ground surface. They can appear faceted if they have been ground on multiple sides. They look like discarded pieces of sidewalk chalk.

References

Last Update

Updated By

Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Unmodified Cobble Tools

WHETSTONES



Piece of ground mineral (Molybdenite?) from Old Karluk

Alutiiq Technological Inventory

Artifact Class Summary Sheet

English Names	Whetstone	Alutiiq Names	Minguutaq, Ipegucaq—something to make
Industry	Other Inorganic	Activity	Manufacturing
		Function	Sharpening slate tools
Common Materials	siltstone, sandstone, greywacke, slate		
LxWxD (cm)			
Tradition	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ocean Bay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kachemak	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Koniag <input type="checkbox"/> Alutiiq
Miniature	<input type="radio"/> Yes	Example Sites Found	Outlet site, AFG-215, Rolling Bay, and many others
	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No/Unknown		
Description	<p>Whetstone are sharpening tools. Alutiiq examples are typically made of fine grained stones that are used to abrade the edge of a slate point or knives to create a sharp, beveled working edge. Many examples are tabular - flat, roughly rectangular pieces of pale greenish siltstone that have clear evidence of grinding (smooth surface, fine striae) on at least one surface and often both the top and bottom. It is possible that these stones were purposefully shaped, but it appears more likely that they were selected for their size (hand-sized or smaller) and shaped as a result of use. Some whetstones are bar-shaped piece of sandstone.</p> <p>Unlike abraders, which are typically rubbed against a tool to sand it (like sand paper), the tool edge is rubbed again the whetstone.</p> <p>These are common tools found in the archaeological record from about 5500 years ago through the Koniag tradition. This is the period that coincides with substantial slate working.</p>		
References	Clark, Donald W., 1974, Koniag Prehistory. Tubinger Monographien zur Urgeschichte, Band 1. Verlag W. Kohlhammer, Stuttgart. (see page 93).		
Last Update	05/22/2021	Updated By	Amy Steffian

Alutiiq Technological Inventory—Unmodified Cobble Tools

WHETSTONES



Whetstone from the Old Harbor Area (AM711)



Whetstone from the Outlet Site