

Acquisitions Department

Two new exhibits come from neighbors across the street. Although technically beyond the museum's stated focus, the items qualify under a new acquisitions policy that weighs factors of "cool enough" and "close enough".

First item: a stone celt loaned by David McKillop and found on family property in Connecticut. Second, a 1791 French coin with the bust of King Louis XVI, minted in Lyon (the bee mark indicates the Lyon mint). Caroline Osofsky found this coin 40 years ago in Georgetown amid sidewalk construction. Coined the same year the French General Assembly declared all "plate" (metal) belonging to the Church be surrendered to the mints, the stamped imagery portends the King's fate two years later (substitute Parisian horsefly for bee).



Prehistoric Solar Observatory

During the Spring Equinox, I returned to a spot which has intrigued me over the years as a possible [prehis-toric solar observatory](#). I made a video of what I consider to be at least an interesting phenomenon. Unfortunately, a misstep and gravity interrupted the project, and left me recuperating with a ravaged skeleton. I have now surpassed 9,400 year old Kennewick Man in the broken ribs ribs department (my seven to his six, - though I still don't have a spear point embedded in my pelvis. Yet.)

Points of The Potomac Palisades.

Now available - a poster of Palisades projectile points. The poster features local points in the collections of the PMOP and the Smithsonian. We are offering [versions on canvas](#) at this time.

Geology Lesson

Last month Cultural Tourism DC sponsored walking tours of the city. I joined a trek led by geologist [Callan Bentley](#) focusing on the geology of Rock Creek and highlighting evidence from our *deep* prehistory. On a recent visit to the museum, Callan expounded on the lithic complexity of samples in the collection. Besides his rock expertise, his beer-making accomplishments sampled at the museum make him a most welcome guest.



Filming: Soapstone Artifacts

This month we begin shooting a video on uses of soapstone by the region's Native Americans. The video will be a sequel to "Stone Points," our first video installation of the series *Prehistoric People of Washington DC*.

Top Priority

I have been frustrated in my efforts to find funding for radiocarbon testing. Some of the museum's carbon samples should yield dates for artifacts in the museum, and I hope by the end of the year to have secured grants for this vital task.

Doug Dupin, Director