

## LITHIC DEFINITIONS

- CORES: The block or nodules of raw material from which flakes are removed in the manufacture of chipped-stone tools.
- UNPREPARED CORE: A core which possesses no systematic shaping of lateral edges and primary flaking is limited to preparation of a striking platform.
- PREPARED CORE: A core which displays systematic preparation of the lateral edges.
- PRIMARY DECORTICATION FLAKE: A flake struck during the initial shaping of a core which displays cortex over the entire dorsal surface.
- SECONDARY DECORTICATION FLAKE: A flake struck during the initial shaping of the core which exhibits cortex over only part of the dorsal surface. An important difference between primary and secondary decortication flakes is that the latter are often utilized as tools themselves in a modified or unmodified state.
- TABULAR FLAKE: Flake struck from an unprepared core, exhibiting a quadrilateral cross-section. The dorsal and ventral surfaces of these flakes are flat and parallel.
- PARALLEL-SIDED FLAKE: Flake struck from a prepared core; large, thick flakes possessing a triangular cross section.
- RECTANGULAR FLAKE: Flake struck from a prepared core exhibiting parallel, or slightly expanding lateral edges in relation to its longitudinal axis. These flakes are generally smaller than Parallel-Sided flakes and are believed to be struck from the edges, toward the center of a pyramidal core.
- LAMELLAR FLAKE: Flake struck from a prepared core which exhibits a thinner, more regular shape than the other flakes detached from prepared cores. The symmetry and length-width ratio of Lamellar Flakes cause them to possess traits intermediate between those of flakes and blades. Indeed, they are removed from cores prepared similarly to the ones true blades are struck from, but lack the careful attention to the striking platform necessary to produce such a blade.
- THINNING FLAKE: Flake removed to thin a piece for artifact manufacture.
- BLADE: A specialized flake which possesses parallel lateral edges and a length equal to or more than twice the width. Blades are manufactured from carefully prepared