

Paleoindian Archaeology at the Edge of the Rockies Advanced Archaeological Field Studies– ANTH 5180

INFORMATION ABOUT HELL GAP

Hell Gap is a stratified site with multiple Paleoindian components. Known as the type site for three Paleoindian complexes (Goshen-11,000 rcybp, Hell Gap-10,000 rcybp, and Frederick-8000 rcybp) and for its Paleoindian cultural sequence, the most complete sequence known for the period, the site plays an extraordinary role in the studies of the First Americans. Originally excavated in the 1960s by Harvard University and its Peabody Museum field expeditions, Hell Gap proved to be a chronostratigraphic panacea as well as a campsite, an uncommon type of site at the time and one yielding a richer cultural inventory of Paleoindian materials. Hell Gap has been under investigation by us since 1993. Our investigations aimed to analyze the results of the 1960s expeditions, as well as initiate new field studies. We have currently reached the middle to early Paleoindian components at Locality I and continue to excavate them.

- [Selected publications](#)
- [Technical reports](#)
- [Selected field school student presentations](#)

Chronologically diagnostic projectile point (top), worked mammoth tusk, hematite, blade core (bottom)

