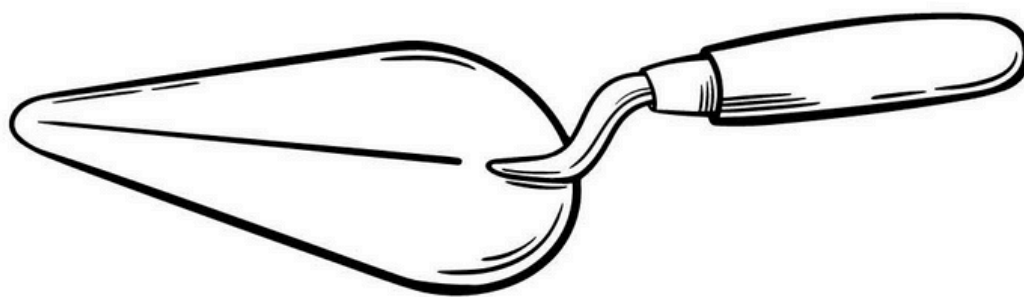




SOCIETY FOR AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY

DISCOVER ARCHAEOLOGY
ACTIVITY BOOKLET
2024



HOW TO USE THIS BOOKLET

In order to view and complete all the activities here, you'll need to open this document using Adobe Acrobat. It will not work properly in a web browser. You can download Adobe Acrobat Reader for free if you do not already have it on your computer. Some activities can be done digitally, but others you may need to print. If you complete any of the activities in this booklet, you can send it to the Society for American Archaeology for a small prize, either an embroidered patch from 2023 or new 2024 stickers, both pictured on the next page and available while supplies last. Please email the document to public_edu@saa.org (sending the digital file, a scan, or a picture).

There is no deadline for completing the activities, and stickers/patches will be sent as long as supplies last. Your sticker or patch will be mailed to you at the address you provide here:

Name:

Address:

Sticker or Patch?

Credits

This booklet was created by Krista Bueno, Anna Carter, Katherine Lawrence, Bernard Means, Martie Surasky, Zoe Tolen, and Sarah Bowen for the Society for American Archaeology in 2024. For other K-12 activities and resources, visit www.saa.org/activities. For any questions, please contact public_edu@saa.org.

Donors to the SAA Public Education Endowment made this activity booklet, the stickers and patches possible. Thank you to our generous supporters!

The activities towards the end of the booklet are meant for older children.



This year's **sticker** features the state tree of Louisiana, the cypress, and the skyline of New Orleans, where the Society for American Archaeology held our 89th annual meeting.



The 2023 embroidered **patch** is based on a photo taken of a tree at Mount Hood in Oregon, with design elements added in consultation with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde. The name for Mount Hood in the Upper Chinook language is Wakakhan. The image was used with permission from Portland-based photographer, Harley Cowan. Cowan's work focuses on documenting shared heritage. The Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, David Harrelson, advocates for the Indigenous artform of the Chinook peoples, on whose land the SAA gathered for our 2023 annual meeting in Portland, Oregon.

DISCOVER SOIL STRATIGRAPHY

When archaeologists excavate a site, they pay close attention to soil stratigraphy. Stratigraphy is the study of material layers that have formed over time. These layers are called strata and can be formed from rocks and organic material such as leaves, dirt, or sand. Artifacts left behind by humans can also be in these strata layers, and that helps archaeologists determine what time period these artifacts came from.

Create your own soil stratigraphy with a jar!

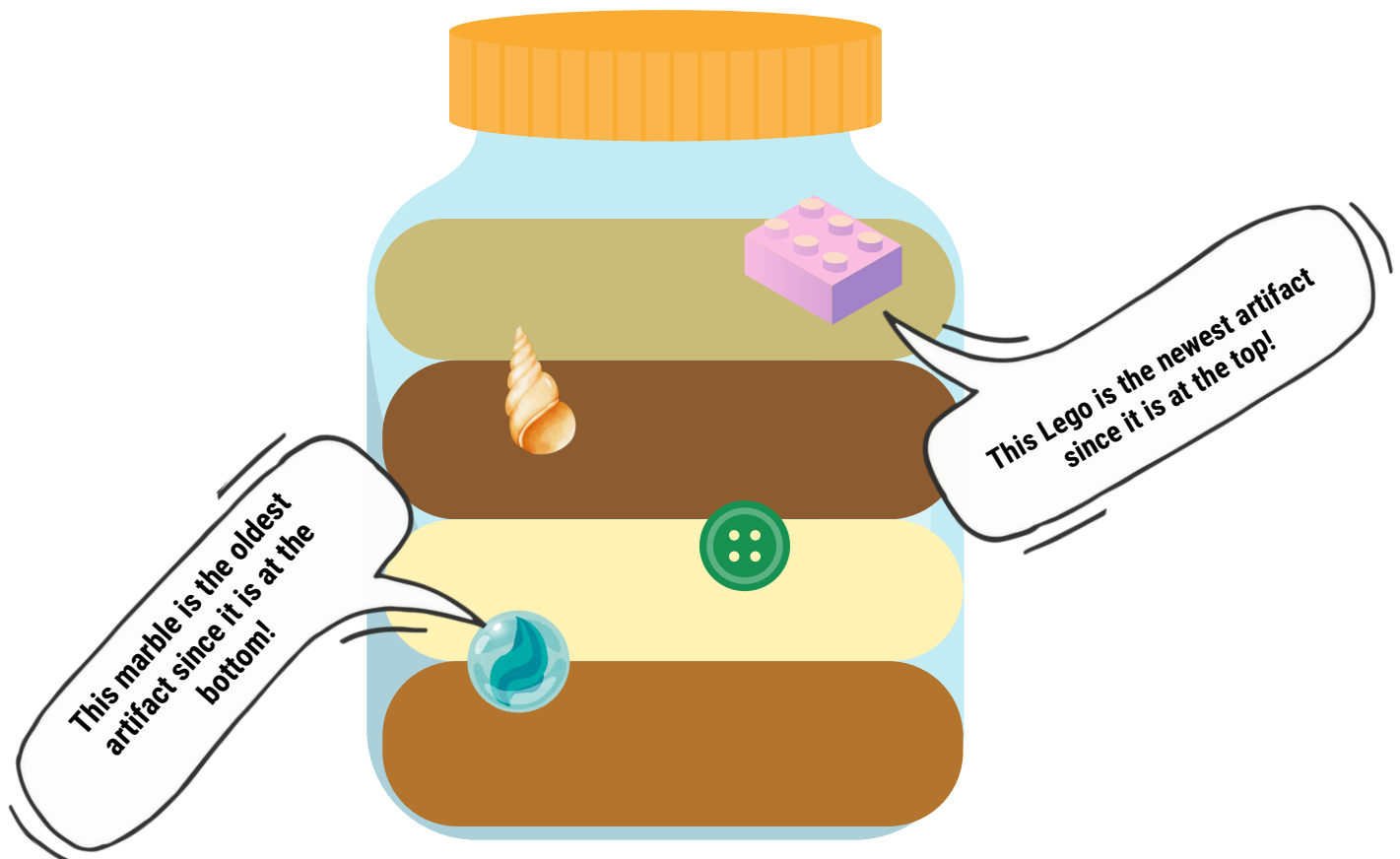
Step 1: Get a glass jar or any clear container.

Step 2: Gather different materials such as dirt, sand, rice, pebbles, or flour to make your strata.

Step 3: Gather things that could be artifacts such as buttons, beads, marbles, seashells, or little toy pieces (Barbie shoes, Legos, etc.).

Step 4: Place 1 layer of your strata on the bottom of your container, then place a couple artifacts close to the sides of the jar. Repeat this step until the jar is full.

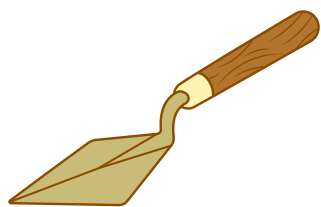
Step 5: Look to see if you can see your artifacts among the different layers. If your Lego is toward the bottom of the jar, this tells you that it is older than a button in a different layer toward the top of your jar.



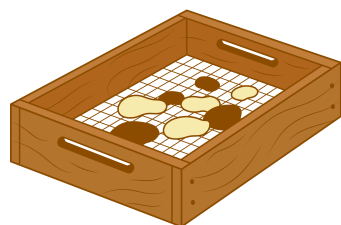
DISCOVER ARCHAEOLOGY TOOLS

Ages
5+

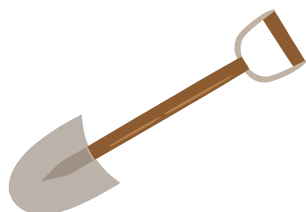
Archaeologists use many tools to dig and record while they are excavating archaeology sites. Match the tools to their name by drawing a line.



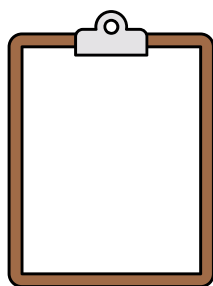
CLIPBOARD



TROWEL



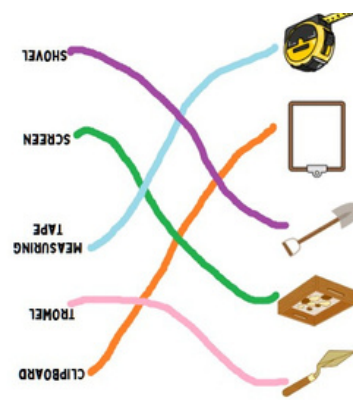
**MEASURING
TAPE**



SCREEN



SHOVEL



DISCOVER ARTIFACT ILLUSTRATION

Ages
5+

Archaeologists often draw the artifacts they find; this helps them to interpret and identify the artifact.

Draw a Colombian Figurine Head!

Across ancient cultures there have been many sculptures and carvings of people. Some were made as art, religious figures, and as history!

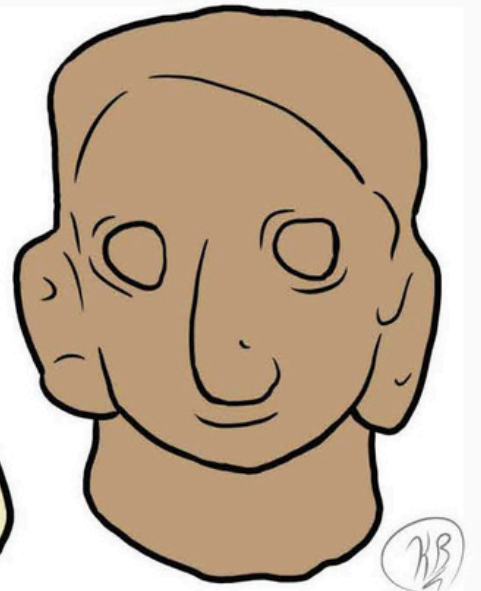
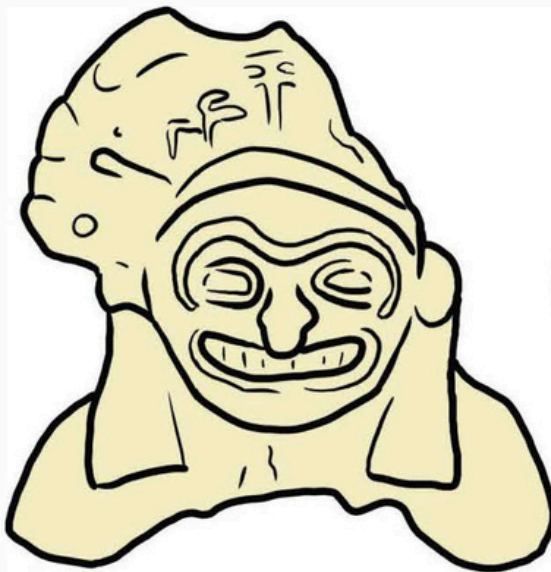
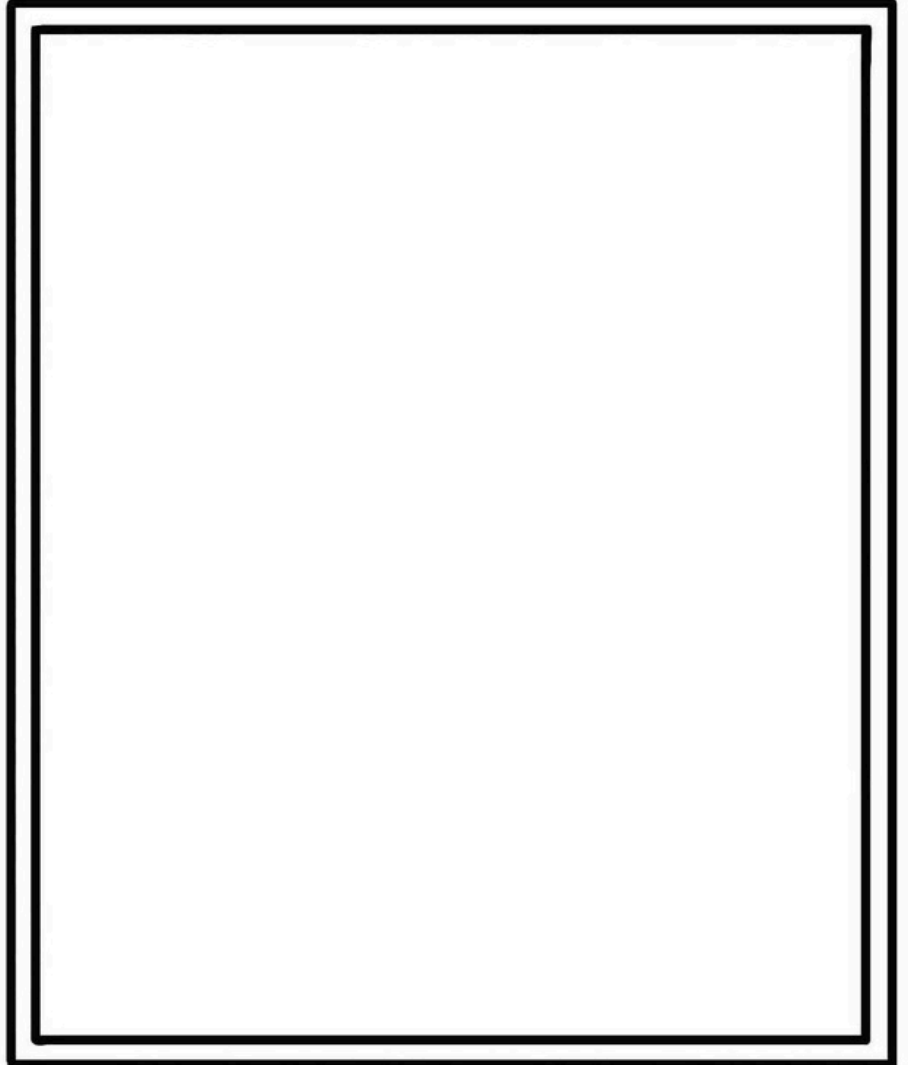
Below are 3 examples of figurine heads from Colombia. You can look at them for ideas as you draw your own figurine head!

Step 1: Draw a head in the box to the right

Step 2: Draw the eyes, nose, and

Step 3: Draw the ears

Step 4: Does your figurine have hair? Earrings? Eyebrows? A hat? Draw those!



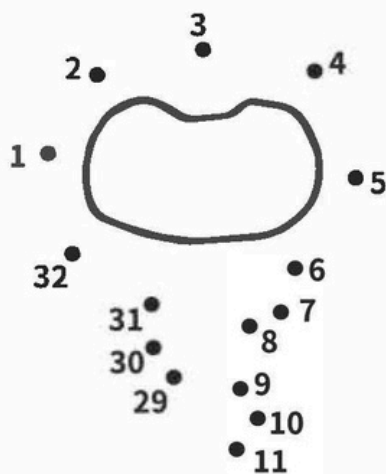
DISCOVER ARTIFACT ILLUSTRATION

Ages
6+

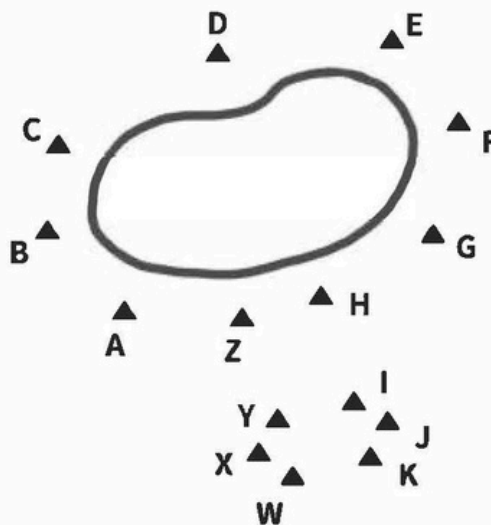
These keys were found during excavations at Fort Germanna in Locust Grove, Virginia, in the 1930s and 1970s.

Germanna Keys Connect-The-Dots

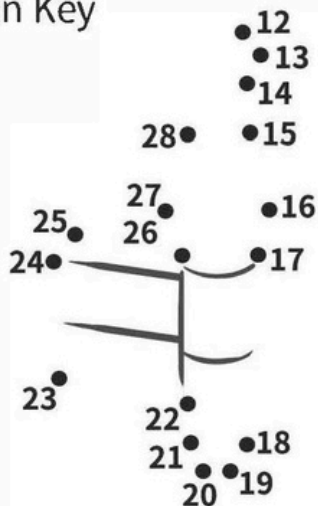
Connect the dots in order to find 3 keys!
Hint: only connect dots to each other that are the same shape!



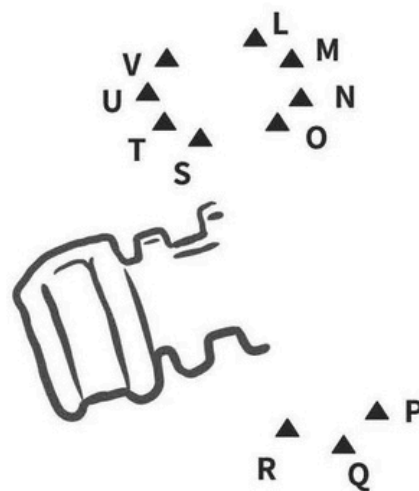
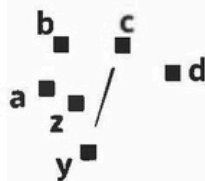
Iron Key



Salubria Key

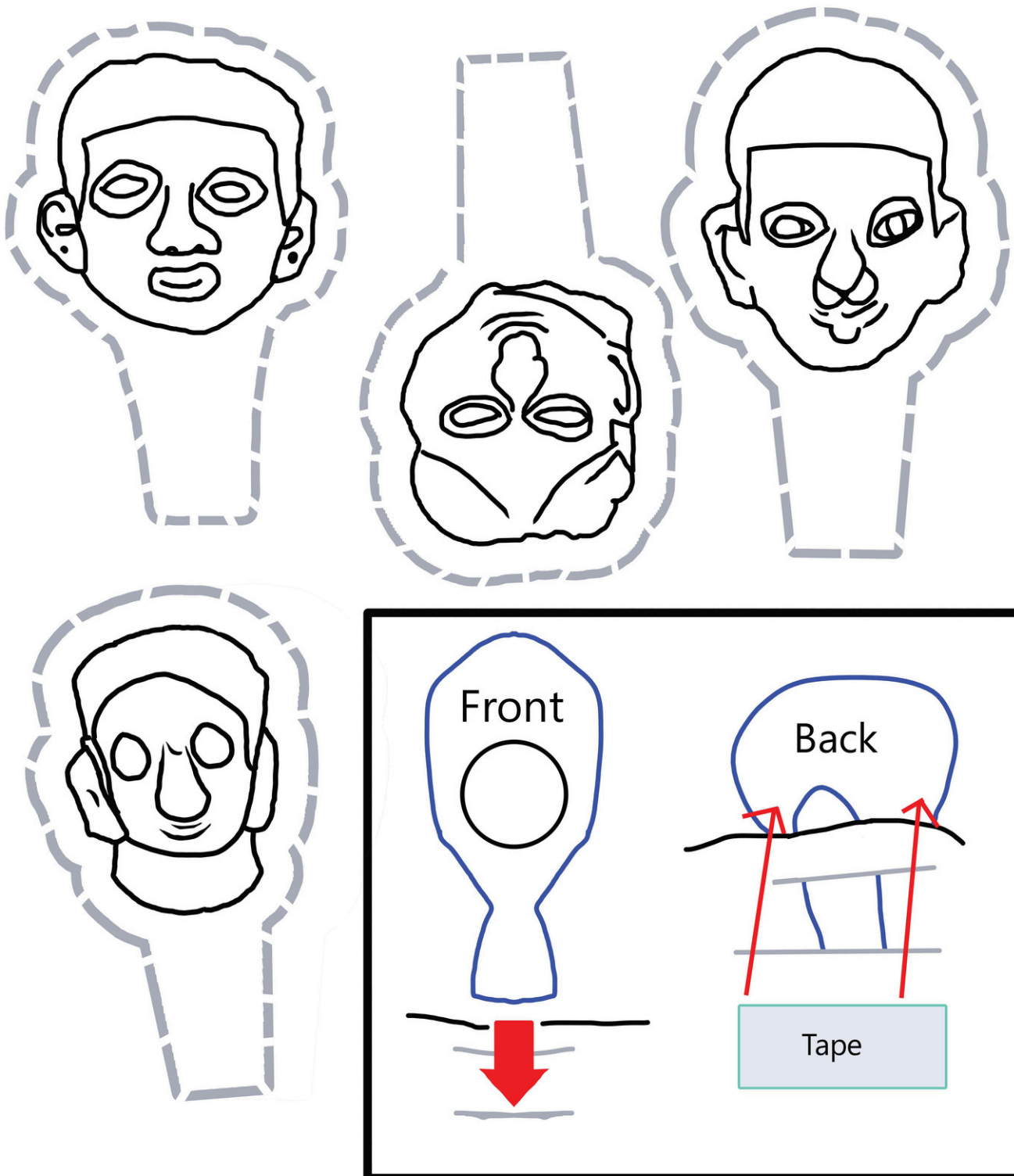


Skeleton Key



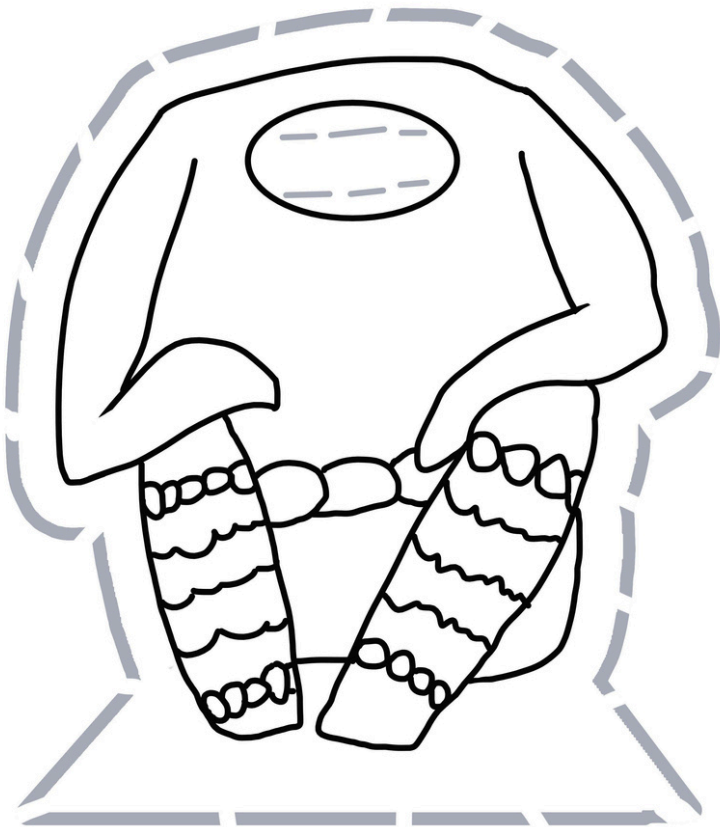
Colombian statue dolls

Make your own dolls by coloring in each piece, cutting out the dotted lines (get an adult to help!) and then put head on a body by tucking the tab inside slots (use tape or glue to stick it on for a long time!)

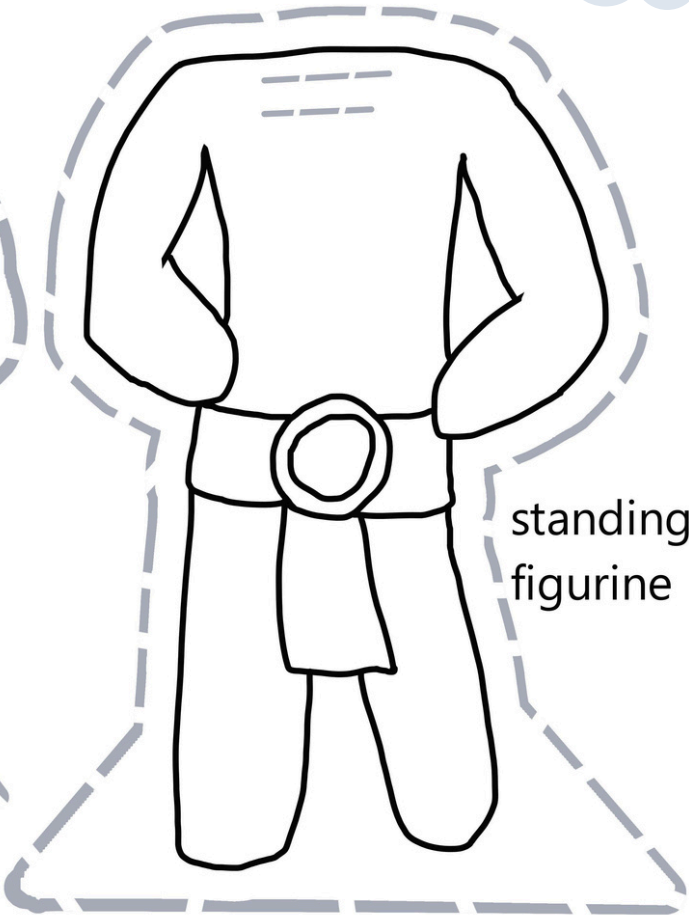


DISCOVER YOUR OWN ARTIFACT MODEL

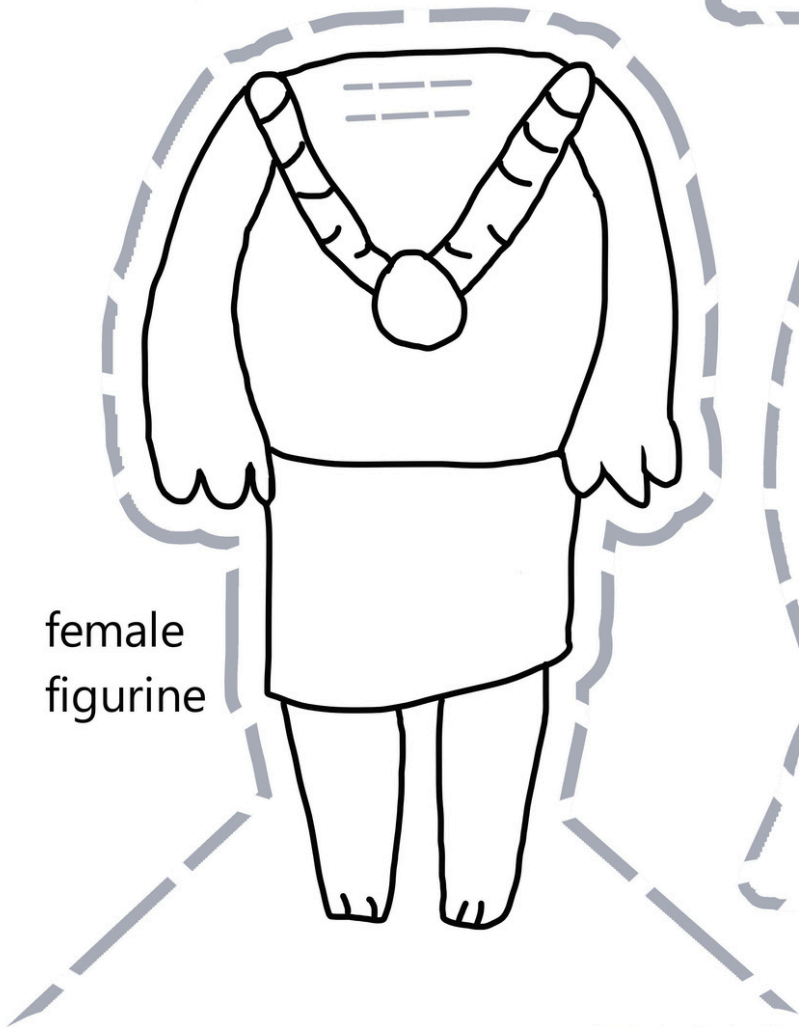
Ages
7+



sitting figure



standing
figurine



female
figurine



vessel figurine

DISCOVER ZOOARCHAEOLOGY

Ages
7+

Zooarchaeologists study animal remains at dig sites. Bones from different species of animals can look similar at first. Archaeologists use collections of bones to help them compare and identify the species. Comparative collections are like libraries of bones that have already been identified. Animal remains give us information, like what people hunted and ate. Their bones can give us clues about the culture and human relationships with animals.

Match the bones to the correct animal!



DISCOVER ARCHAEOLOGY CAREERS

Ages
8+

Archaeologists work in a variety of different settings, and many do more than just “dig.” Most archaeologists work in Cultural Resource Management (CRM), but some work for government agencies, colleges, or museums. Search for the names of different types of places archaeologists may work. Words may be backward or diagonal.

Archaeology Careers

U I P N N S T C M I R E S A I C B H
A L I U N A C F E S I O L M R N L I
S S R C R L T L S B F M N E E I R S
O E C S I R F I C S O C N D C I T T
N I N K P S L I O I N R S S S K F O
S C D L S U S O U N T E C N C I I R
T N M I E O R P N K A O S K K C I I
U E I N I C A S E G E L L O C U N C
N G C S C K A S I M P E P E S I T S
I A I I N S T L S S A A G A L R S I
V L T B E N S C A K G C L A R E C T
E A S R G U M O C E I G R I N K R E
R R R V A G U U R I L R N U S S S S
S E E A L I S E M T S A O T E N T I
I D E C A E E I F B E U S G H A R A
T E G N B I U A I T S D I E S L E O
I F E E I H M S R S H R N N S B I U
E A N R R E S S M E O I G F E N V I
S N C A T M R E S S U L E M N R S O
N R E R R B R I S T S R I E S G N E

CRM Firms
Tribal Agencies

Museums
Historic Sites

National Parks
Federal Agencies

Colleges
Universities

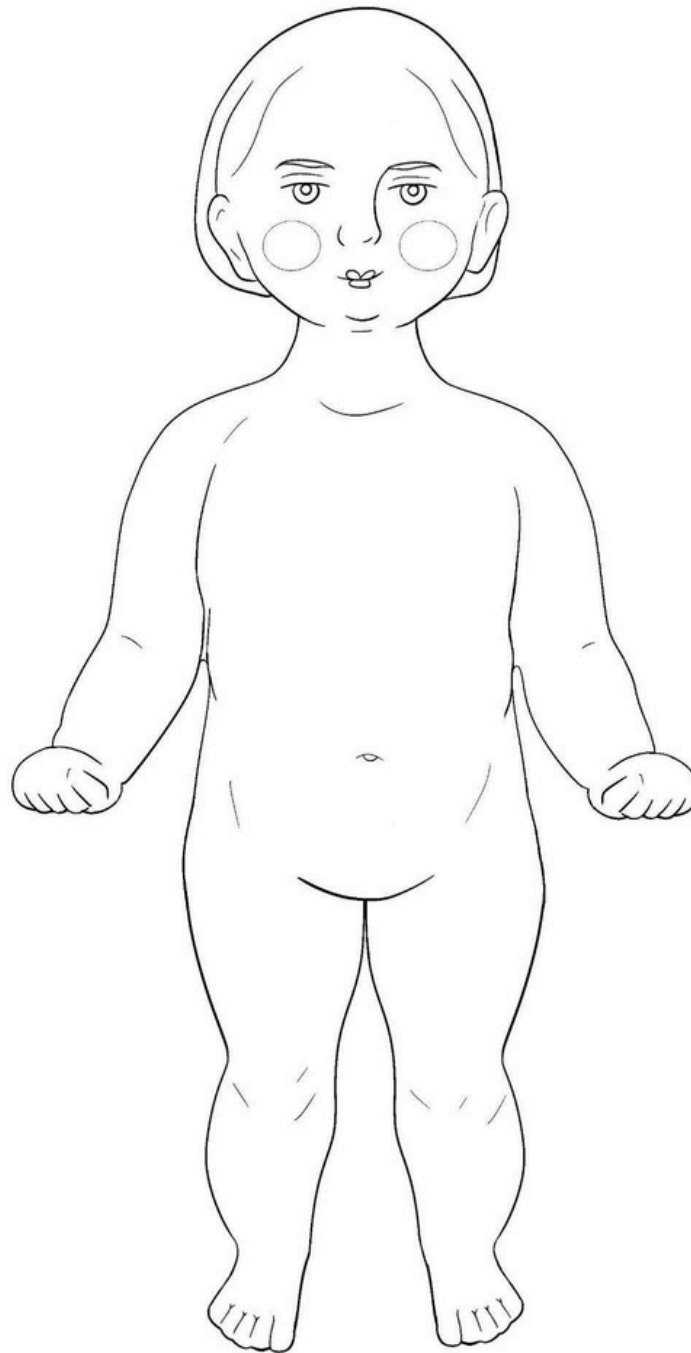
DISCOVER PORCELAIN DOLLS: COLORING

Ages
11-15

* Younger children may find the details from the comic on the next page disturbing.

Color the “Frozen Charlotte” Doll

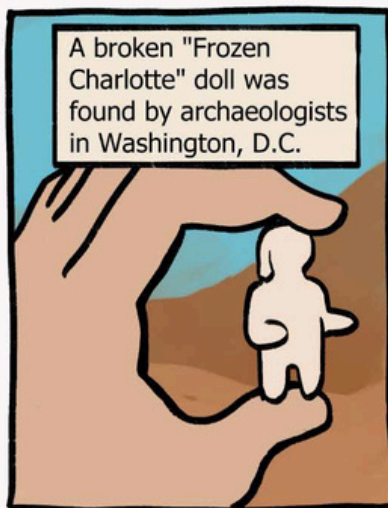
Similar to one found archaeologically in Washington, D.C.
See Comic on the Next Page



Anna Carter



Younger children may find details from the comic disturbing.



MS2024

DISCOVER ARCHAEOLOGY CAREERS

Ages
11-15

Visit saa.org and answer the questions below to learn about what archaeologists do and what kind of education you need to become an archaeologist.

DO ALL ARCHAEOLOGISTS TRAVEL?

WHERE DO ARCHAEOLOGISTS PUBLISH THEIR RESEARCH?

HOW MANY YEARS OF EDUCATION DO ARCHAEOLOGISTS NEED?

WHAT ARE THE FOUR SUBFIELDS OF ANTHROPOLOGY?

TRUE OR FALSE: YOU NEED TO COMPLETE A FIELD SCHOOL TO BE EMPLOYED AS AN ARCHAEOLOGIST?

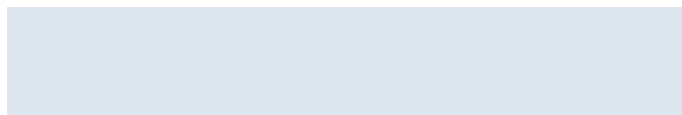
DISCOVER LOCAL ARCHAEOLOGY

Ages
11-15

Every state has archaeological sites, archaeologists, and a State Historic Preservation Officer. Let's do some research on your state!

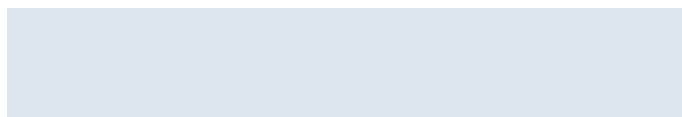
WHO IS YOUR STATE ARCHAEOLOGIST?

Visit <https://www.state-archaeologists.us/find-your-state-archaeologist> to find out!



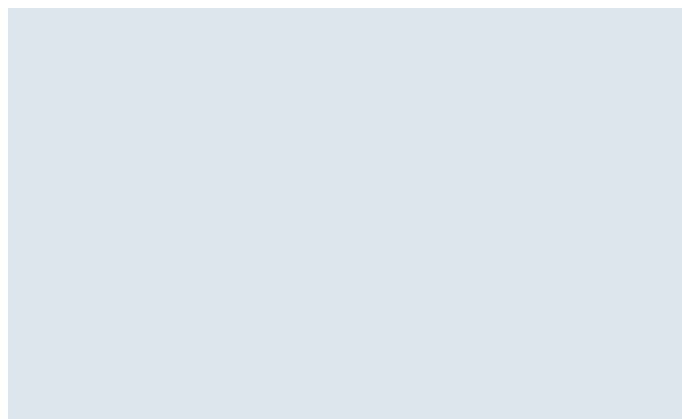
WHO IS YOUR STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER?

Visit <https://ncshpo.org/directory/> to find out!



WHAT ARE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICERS RESPONSIBLE FOR?

Visit <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/historicpreservationfund/state-historic-preservation-office-program.htm> to find out!





SOCIETY FOR AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY

DISCOVER ARCHAEOLOGY ACTIVITY BOOKLET



2023



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Society for American Archaeology
Education and Outreach
1990 K St. NW #401
Washington, DC 20006

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Name:

Address:

Credits

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Discover Archaeological Tools

Archaeologists excavate at sites, where people lived in the past. They use tools to help them dig and record what they find. Search for the names of six tools archaeologists use at dig sites. Words may be backwards or diagonal.

C	O	S	L	L	A	N	U	F	W	I	L	M
G	L	H	J	I	B	X	I	M	R	N	E	P
I	E	W	T	C	C	Q	R	K	J	A	V	T
Q	E	I	Z	J	U	N	D	J	S	T	E	R
P	Z	D	M	G	T	A	E	U	N	V	L	O
N	E	K	Q	O	G	D	R	P	C	L	E	W
H	T	D	Z	B	R	I	J	O	R	W	N	E
R	Z	N	T	H	N	R	K	R	O	C	I	L
L	T	J	S	G	B	L	Y	Q	I	E	L	N
Z	C	U	T	I	H	E	Q	M	D	I	N	G
T	R	A	K	C	I	P	L	A	T	N	E	D
B	P	F	K	P	J	N	T	I	L	V	H	E
E	V	L	P	D	W	O	B	K	P	X	D	L



Trowel

Pencil



Measuring Tape

Brush



Line Level

Dental Pick

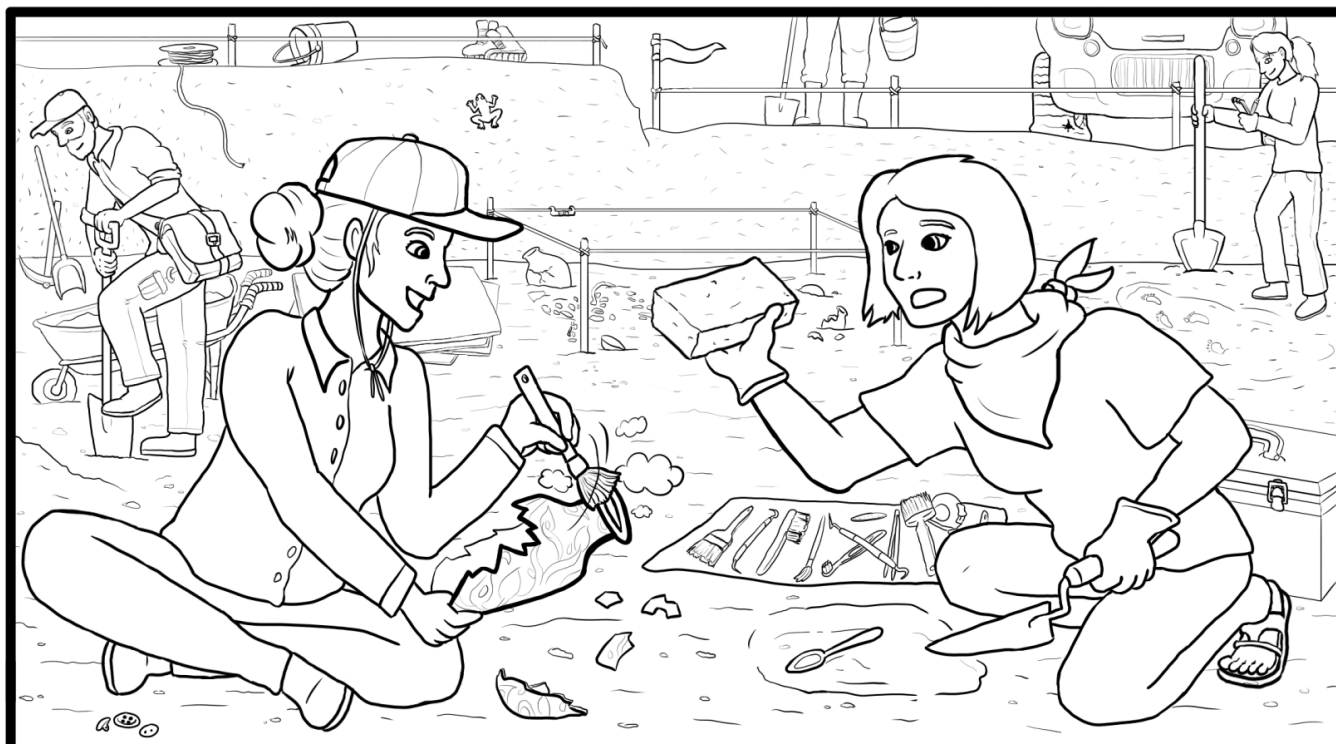


Can you find these tools in the pictures on the next page?

Discover the Differences

Archaeologists pay close attention to details and take careful notes about artifacts. Artifacts are the objects people left behind. Archaeologists look for differences between sites that show us how people lived in the past.

There are 15 differences between the two pictures below. How many can you see?



7/8

Discover Artifact Patterning

Archaeologists in labs and museums look at designs and patterns on artifacts. This gives them clues about styles, trends, and how past people saw the world around them. You can color this decorated bowl below using the same colors people used around 200 years ago. Underwater archaeologists discovered the bowl at the River Bridge Site in North Carolina. The artifact is now in the Museum of the Albemarle.



Scan the QR code or click [here to view the 3D model](#) in full color online!

1: Yellow

2: Blue

3: Orange

4: Green

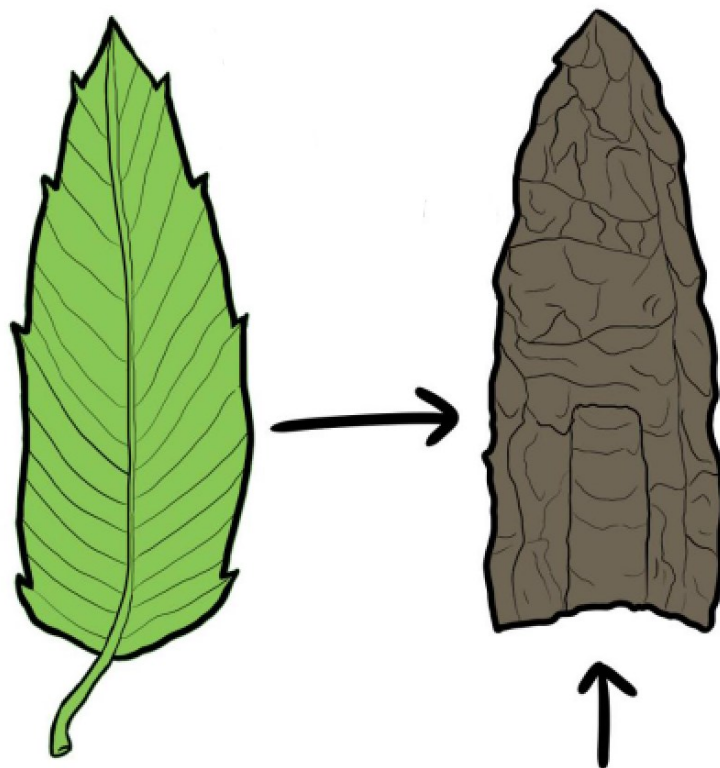
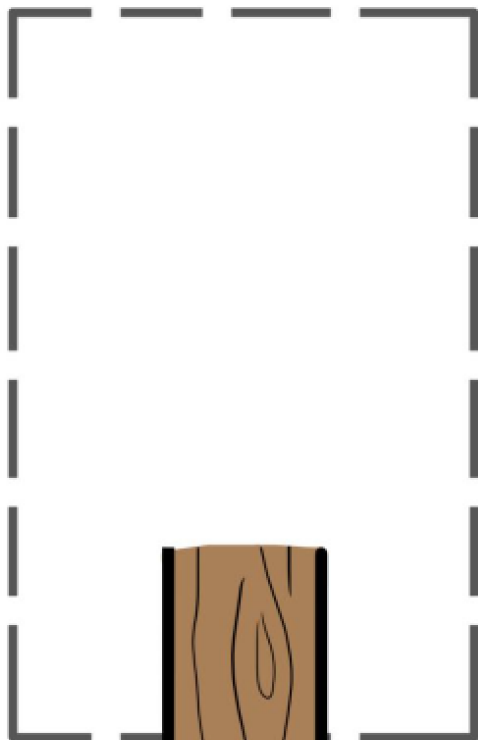


Discover Clovis Points

All over the world, people used tools made by shaping or chipping stones. Archaeologists study these to understand how people used the tools in the past. With stone tools, they hunted, carved or shaped wood, and cut leather. Some of the earliest chipped stone tools in North America were a style called Clovis points. Around 13,000 years ago, hunters attached the points to spears or darts.

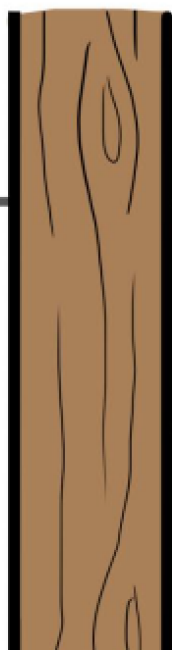
Shape: people chipped stone into a leaf shape so that the point would be strong and sharp.

Draw a Clovis point on top of the spear shaft below:

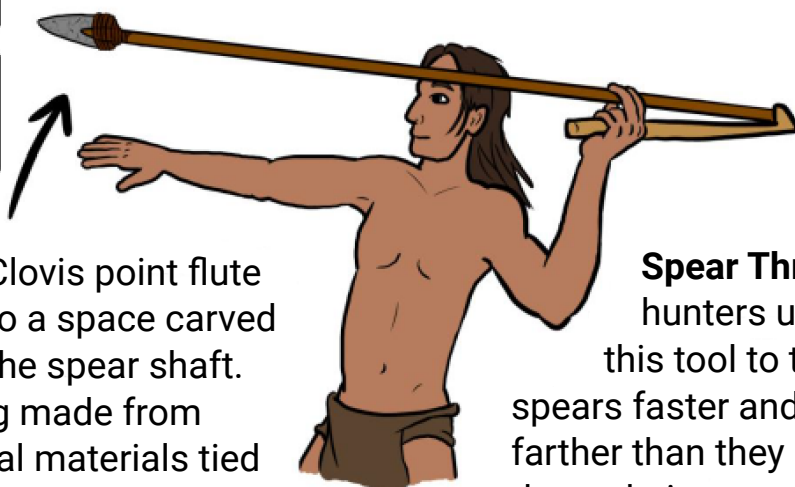


Flute: the groove in the middle of each side of the point is called a flute. This is so hunters could attach the point to a wooden shaft.

Spear Shaft



The Clovis point flute fit into a space carved into the spear shaft. String made from animal materials tied the tool in place.



Spear Thrower: hunters used this tool to throw spears faster and farther than they could do on their own.

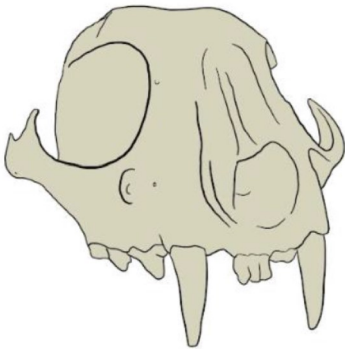
Discover Zooarchaeology

Zooarchaeologists study animal remains at dig sites.

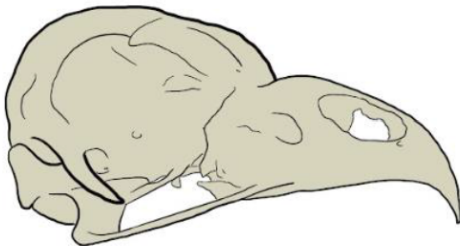
Bones from different species of animals can look similar at first. Archaeologists use collections of bones to help them compare and identify the species. Comparative collections are like libraries of bones that they have already identified.

Animal remains give us information, like what people hunted and ate. Their bones can give us clues about the culture and human relationships with animals.

Lynx



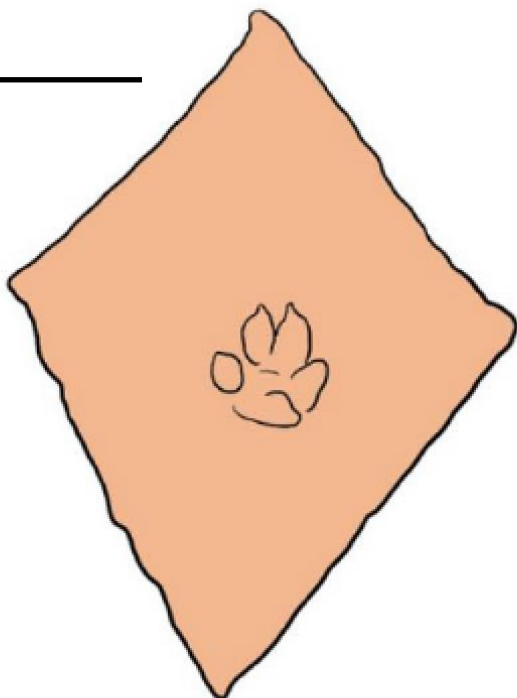
Barred Owl



Describe similarities and differences you see between the shapes of the two animal skulls above:

Discover Zooarchaeology: Making an Impression

Zooarchaeology is not always about identifying bones. Sometimes animals leave their mark in different ways. Below are two different objects with paw prints on them. Can you identify which animal they came from?



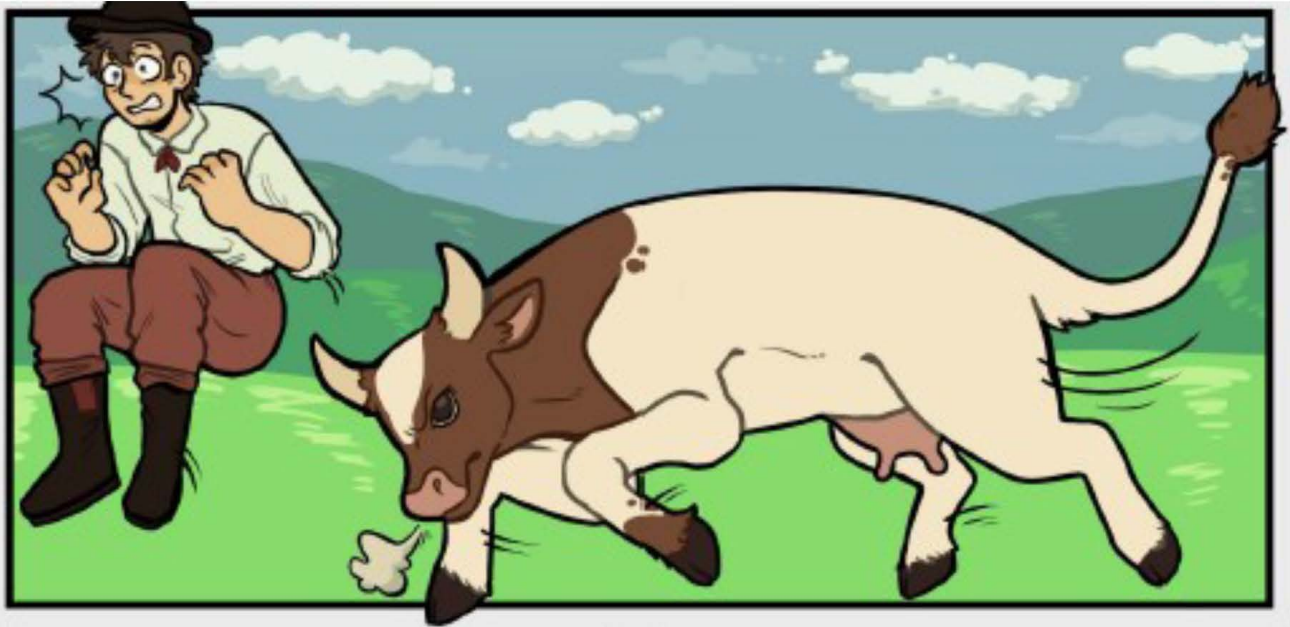
Discover Zooarchaeology: An Animal Mystery

Below is an image of a part of an animal. What animal did it come from? Which part of the animal do you think it is? Draw or write story in the space below that explains where the bone came from. Turn this page upside down and read the text below or follow the QR code for the answer. Go to the next page to see a comic that shows what some archaeologists think might have happened.



This is the tip of a cow horn from the 1700s. Archaeologists found it in 2018 while working at the site of Germania in Virginia. Follow the QR code to see a [3D model of the cow horn](#), which you can move and turn around on your computer screen.





MS2023

Discover Archaeology Under the Waves

Archaeologists dig on land, but did you know that they also work underwater? Underwater archaeology has different challenges than working on the land. They have to train to use underwater breathing equipment, like scuba gear. The discoveries under the water can be amazing. One reason is that some materials preserve better under the water than they do on land. Archaeologists can find artifacts made out of leather, cloth, or wood. Out of the water, those materials usually fall apart quickly.



Underwater archaeologists work on coasts, oceans, lakes, and rivers. Many more archaeological sites than you might think are under the waves.

Is there a known water-related archaeological site near where you live? Search your local history online or ask at your public library to find out!

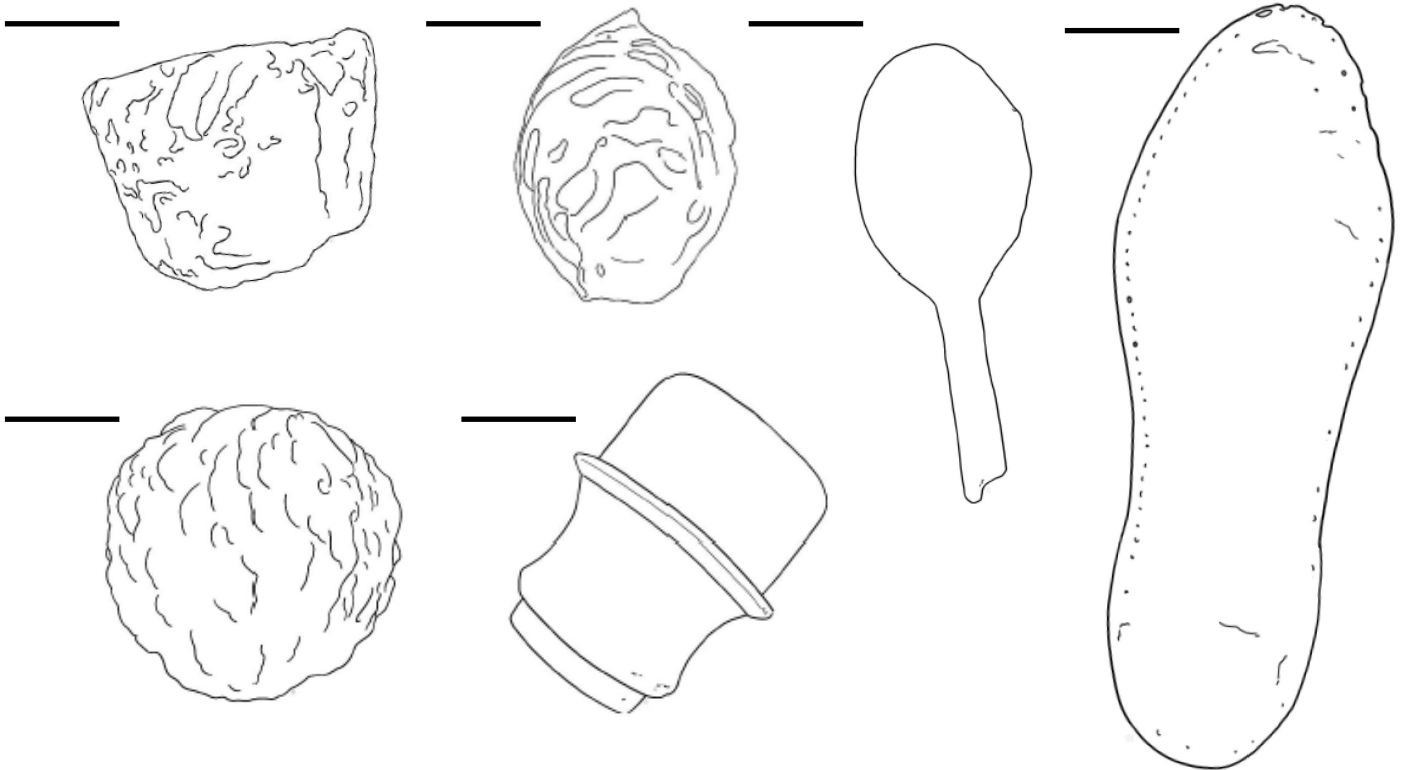
Discover Archaeology Under the Waves: The *Betsy*

Underwater archaeologists in Virginia investigated a Revolutionary War British shipwreck—the *Betsy*—in the 1980s. The British purposefully sunk the ship during the last battle of the American Revolution in 1781. Follow the QR code below or click the link to see 3D models of [artifacts from the *Betsy*](#). The water preserved many artifacts, including:

- A. a peach pit
- B. a walnut
- C. the cork for a bottle
- D. the leather sole (bottom) of a shoe
- E. a wooden eyepiece for a telescope
- F. a wooden spoon



Can you identify what the artifacts below are using the list above?



What can artifacts like these tell us about the people who lived on the ship?

Discover Women in Archaeology

Women have been doing important archaeological work for a long time. However, they haven't always been credited for their discoveries or given the same opportunities as male archaeologists. Elaine Bluhm Herold, an archaeologist in the 1950s and 1960s, did significant research on early Indigenous people in the state of Illinois. She also founded the Illinois Archaeology Survey in 1956, which encouraged community members to save local historical sites threatened by highway construction. Although Elaine was one of a few women in Illinois archaeology at that time, she contributed significantly to the field and helped pave the way for female archaeologists today!

Information from Eve A. Hargrave, "[Elaine Bluhm Herold: A Renaissance Woman of Illinois.](#)"



Visit [Trowel Blazers](#) to find out more about the amazing work women have done in the field of archaeology. Click on the 'Articles' heading and choose one woman and read her story. Then, write about what you learned below.



Name of archaeologist:

What years did she work?

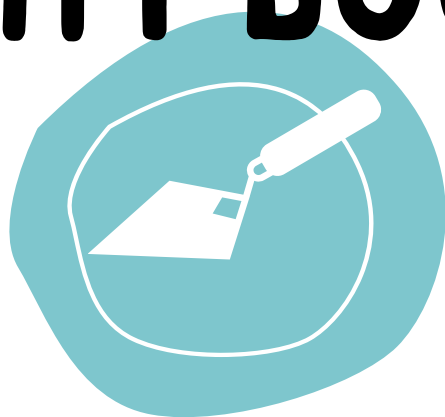
In what area(s) of the world did she work?

Write about one major accomplishment of the archaeologist you chose:



SOCIETY FOR AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY

DISCOVER ARCHAEOLOGY ACTIVITY BOOKLET



PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY DAY 2022



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Society for American Archaeology
Education and Outreach
1990 K St. NW #401
Washington, DC 20006



This year's patch honors the Nishnabek peoples, including the Ojibwe, Odawa, and Potawatomi nations, upon whose traditional homelands we gathered for the Society for American Archaeology's 2022 Annual Meeting in Chicago. The design is a creative collaboration between Ojibwe artist Andrea Carlson and illustrator and SAA member Kristin Donner. The patch incorporates Carlson's floral pattern with Donner's color palette and is inspired by the ribbon applique of many Native nations. Art is a way to raise awareness of the enduring Native presence and a means to resist erasure.

There is no deadline for completing the activities, and patches will be sent as long as supplies last. Your patch will be mailed to you at the address you provide here:

Name:

Address:

Public Archaeology Day 2022

This booklet was created by Bernard K. Means, Kristin Donner, Maggie Colangelo, Audrey Birch, Savannah Gross, and Beth Pruitt for the SAA's celebration of archaeology on April 2, 2022. View other digital resources at www.saa.org/publicday. For any questions, please contact public_edu@saa.org.

Discover Artifacts

Many of the artifacts that archaeologists find are broken, but they can guess about an object's complete shape or how it was decorated from the pieces. For the two objects on this and the next page, draw how you think they would have looked whole and add decorations if you think they should be there.



Discover Artifacts



Discover the Differences

When analyzing artifacts, archaeologists look for differences in shape and style that sometimes can be very small, but are still very important. The two drawings of artifacts below look the same, but there are some differences. On the picture on the right, circle the places where it is different from the picture on the left.



How could differences in shape, style, and decoration, help an archaeologist learn more about the people who made the artifacts?

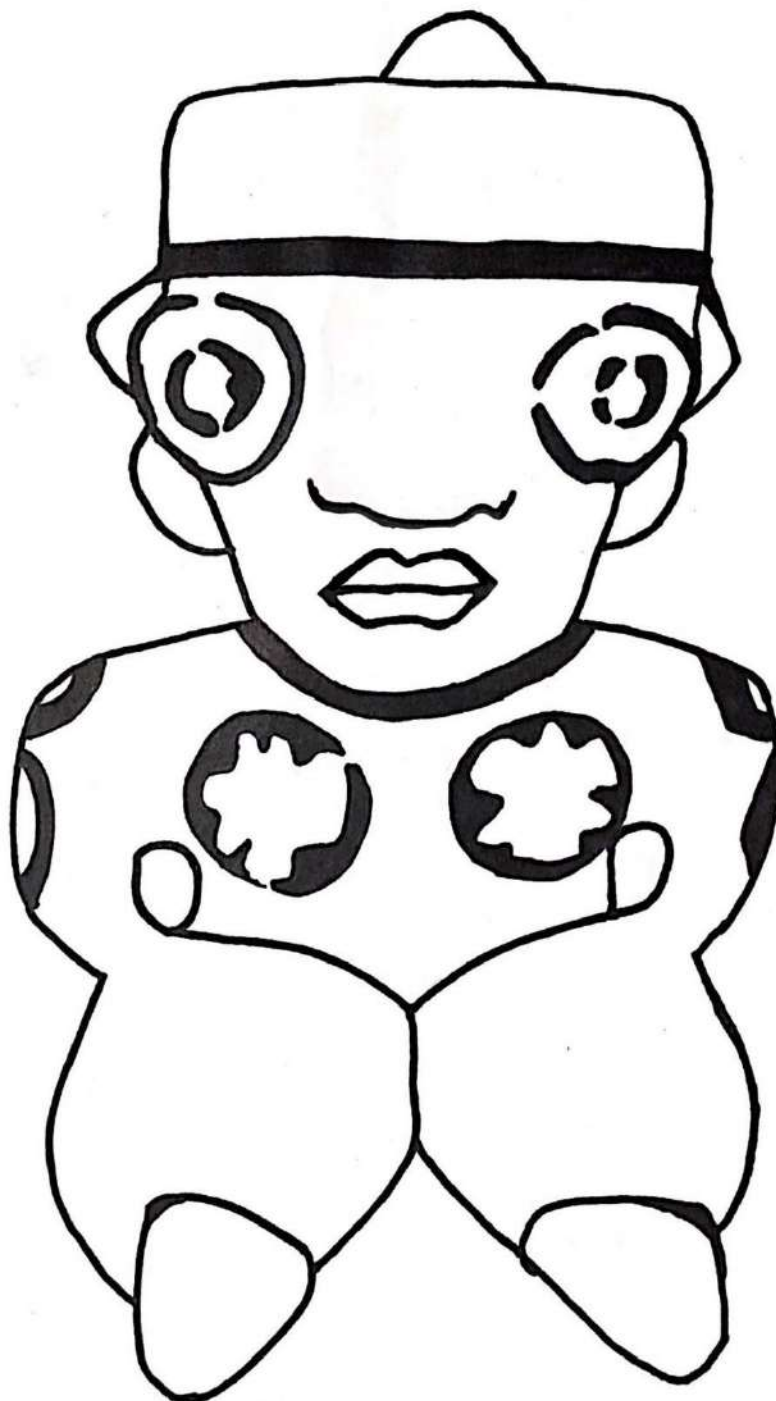
Discover Ceramic Figurines: Coloring

There are three ceramic (clay) figurines on the following pages. The QR codes will take you to a website with full color three-dimensional (3D) models of each figurine you can move and rotate. You can color the pages to match the 3D models or be as different and creative as you like. See an example of the seated figurine colored by artist Maggie Colangelo below.



Discover Ceramic Figurines: Coloring

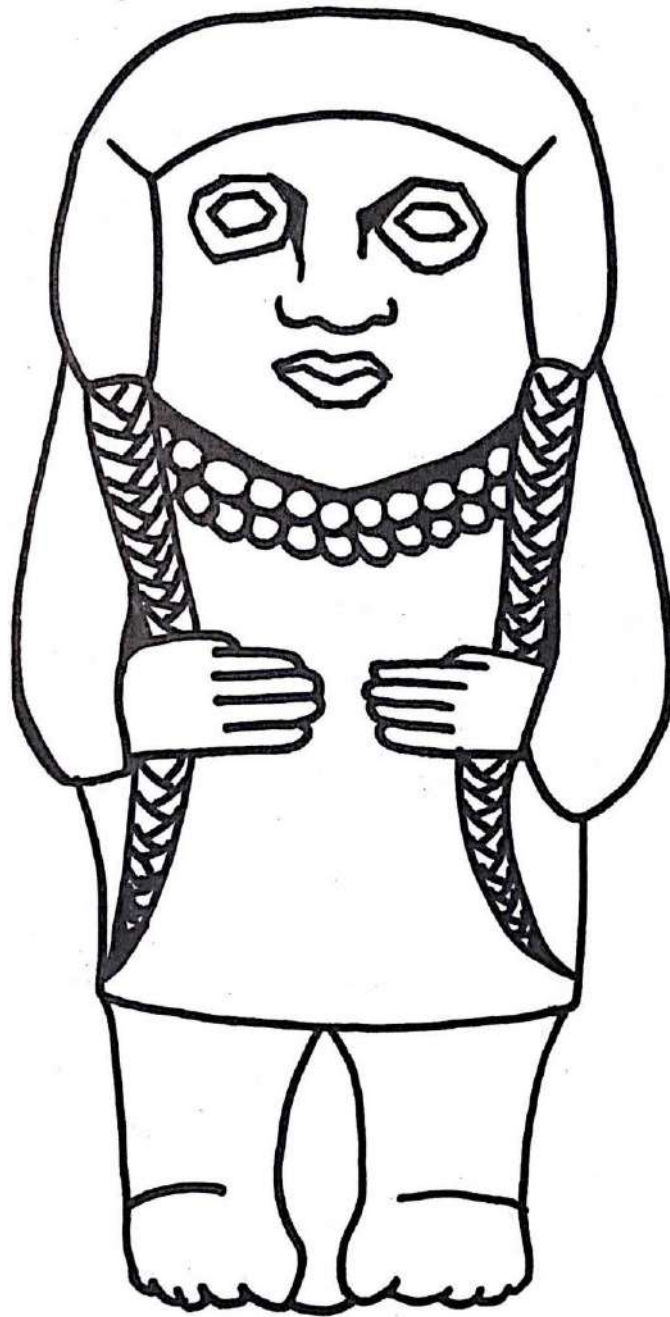
This ceramic figurine of a woman from Costa Rica may date to around 1000 A.D. It was collected by Carnegie Museum of Natural History curator Carl V. Hartman, between 1903 and 1908. Courtesy of the Carnegie Museum of Natural History.



Scan the QR code or click [here to view the 3D model](#) in full color online!

Discover Ceramic Figurines: Coloring

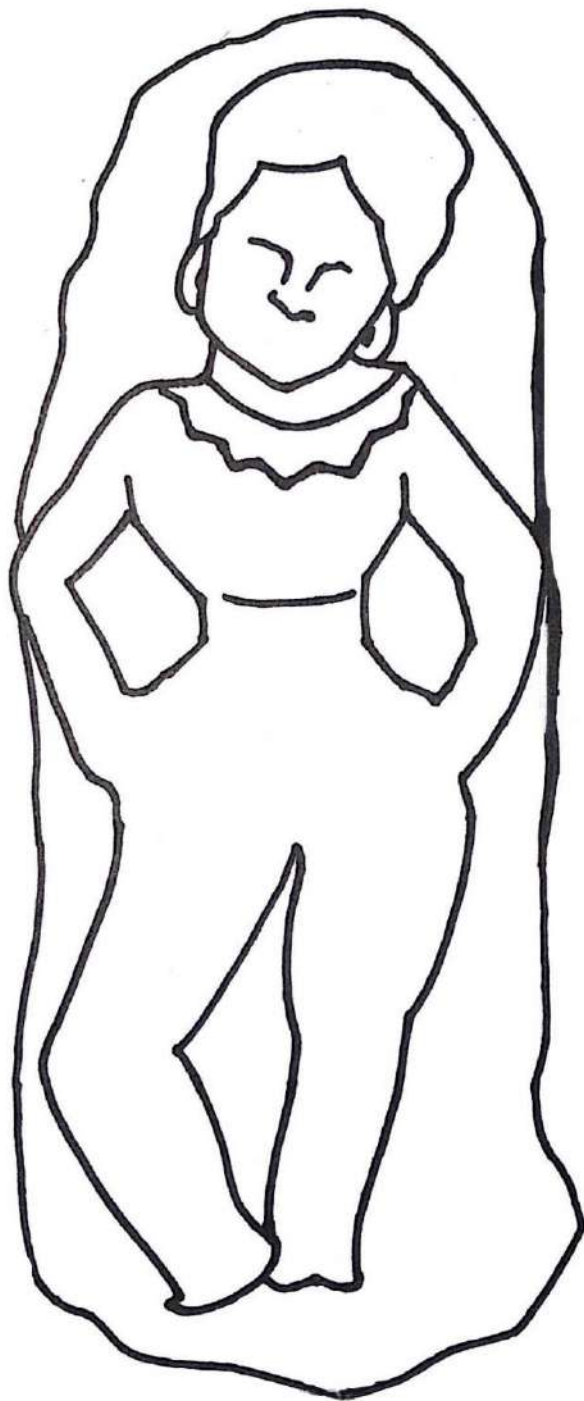
This ceramic object represents the figurine of a woman created by the Moche culture, who lived in northern Peru between 100 and 750 A.D. Courtesy of the Virginia Museum of Natural History.



Scan the QR code or click [here to view the 3D model](#) in full color online!

Discover Ceramic Figurines: Coloring

This ceramic figurine of a woman in a dancing pose was found at the site of Jhusi in the town of Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh in India and dates to the Kushan Period (100 to 200 A.D.). It is currently in the HNB Garhwal University Department of Ancient History, Culture, and Archaeology. Courtesy of HNB Garhwal University.



Scan the QR code or click [here to view the 3D model](#) in full color online!

Discover Ceramic Figurines: Creative Clues to Ancient Lives

Humans have made art that depicted the world around them for thousands and thousands of years. Cave paintings across the world show plants and animals that women and men saw in their daily lives. Some of those plants and animals are no longer with us today. Figurines made from clay may help us learn about past customs, especially related to clothing, hair styles, headdresses, and jewelry.

On the next three pages are 3D models of the same three clay figurines from the coloring activity. They are from three different cultures separated by centuries and even an ocean. You can compare the three figurines and see in what ways they are similar, and also how they are different. Pay careful attention to how they are dressed and how they are posed.

If you have not already, you will need to download the free [Adobe Acrobat Reader](#) to rotate the models in all directions. You will need to choose the option to “Trust This Document” after you’ve opened it in that program.



List at least two ways all 3 of the figures are the same:



List at least two ways the 3 figures are different from each other:

Discover Ceramic Figurines: Creative Clues to Ancient Lives



Discover Ceramic Figurines: Creative Clues to Ancient Lives



Discover Ceramic Figurines: Creative Clues to Ancient Lives



Discover Women in Archaeology

Women have been doing important archaeological work for a long time. However, they haven't always been credited for their discoveries or given the same opportunities as male archaeologists. Elaine Bluhm Herold, an archaeologist in the 1950s and 1960s, did significant research on early Indigenous people in the state of Illinois. She also founded the Illinois Archaeology Survey in 1956, which encouraged community members to save local historical sites threatened by highway construction. Although Elaine was one of a few women in Illinois archaeology at that time, she contributed significantly to the field and helped pave the way for female archaeologists today!

Information from Eve A. Hargrave, "[Elaine Bluhm Herold: A Renaissance Woman of Illinois.](#)"



Visit [Trowel Blazers](#) to find out more about the amazing work women have done in the field of archaeology. Click on the "Articles" heading and choose one woman and read her story. Then, write about what you learned below.



Name of archaeologist:

What years did she work?

In what area(s) of the world did she work?

Write about one major accomplishment of the archaeologist you chose:

Discover Art and Advocacy

Generations of Native American women have expressed cultural values through their crafts. For the Pokagon Band of the Potawatomi people, handmade black ash baskets reflect daily life, community spirit, and relationship to their land through a rich crafting tradition. With the influx of non-Native settlers to what is now the Midwest United States, the Potawatomi lost access to their Native homelands. It became more difficult to practice many traditional activities.

Art has been a way to reconnect. In the 1970s, weavers Agnes Rapp and Julia Wesaw started the Pokagon Basket Makers' Co-op. The Co-op revived interest in Native crafts and culture and renewed efforts of the Pokagon Potawatomi nation for federal recognition. The Co-op and their black ash baskets became symbols for the movement for sovereignty, which they achieved in 1994. Sovereignty as a federally recognized tribe means they are treated as independent by the United States government. You can [view Potawatomi baskets](#) in an exhibit at the Field Museum.

Today, a new generation continues the tradition of creative advocacy. Along the Chicago Riverwalk, enormous murals by Ojibwe artist Andrea Carlson use Native floral and geometric motifs. She combined her art with a view of the waterfront and a powerful message: **"You are on Potawatomi Land."** You can [read an interview](#) with the artist for more information about her artwork.



What is an example of art that makes a positive impact in your community? What is the message of that artwork?

Discover Ben Franklin's Mastodon Tooth

Did you know that Ben Franklin and many of America's founders were obsessed with mastodon fossils? You can download the free comics *Founding Monsters* and *Founding Monsters Tales* by scanning the QR codes or clicking on the images below to learn more about their interests in these fossils.



Mastodon fossils are usually studied by paleontologists, but Ben Franklin's mastodon tooth was discovered through an excavation by archaeologists at a property he owned in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. This mastodon fossil (a molar) has been 3D scanned. You can learn more about how it was scanned in the comic on the next page.

You can [download from Sketchfab](#) and even 3D print the mastodon tooth if you have a 3D printer. Don't have access to a 3D printer? On the pages following the comic, you will find plans for slices of the mastodon tooth that you can trace onto cardboard, cut out, stack, and then glue together. Make sure young children have adult help for this activity. We recommend you start in the middle with the largest pieces and work your way out to either side.



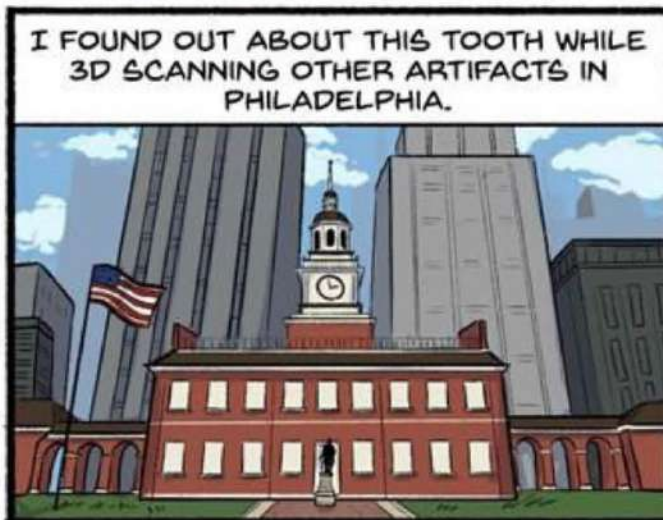
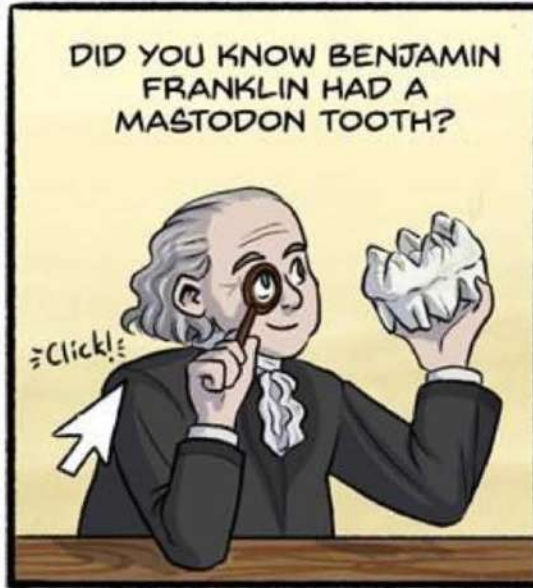
Why do you think archaeologists might use models while studying an artifact?

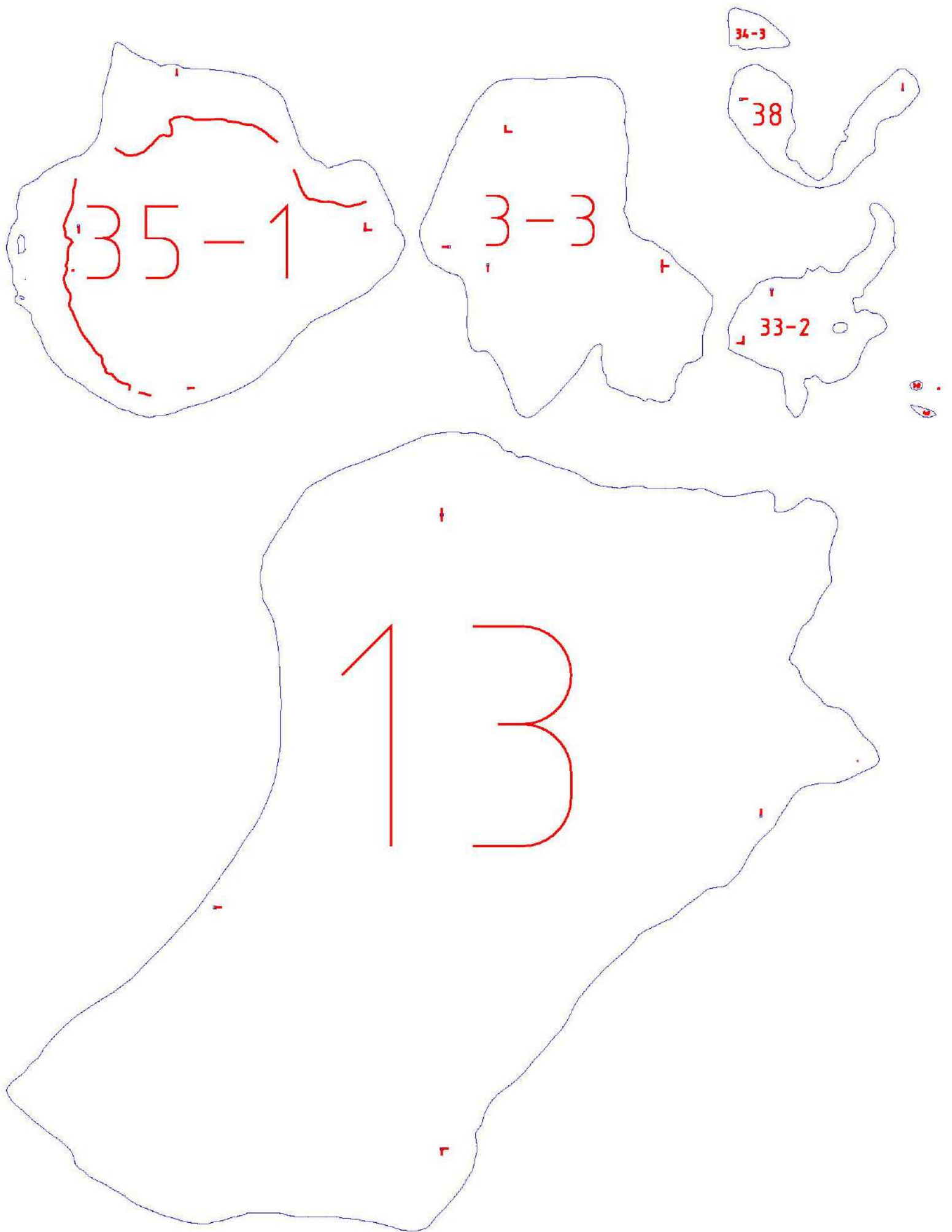


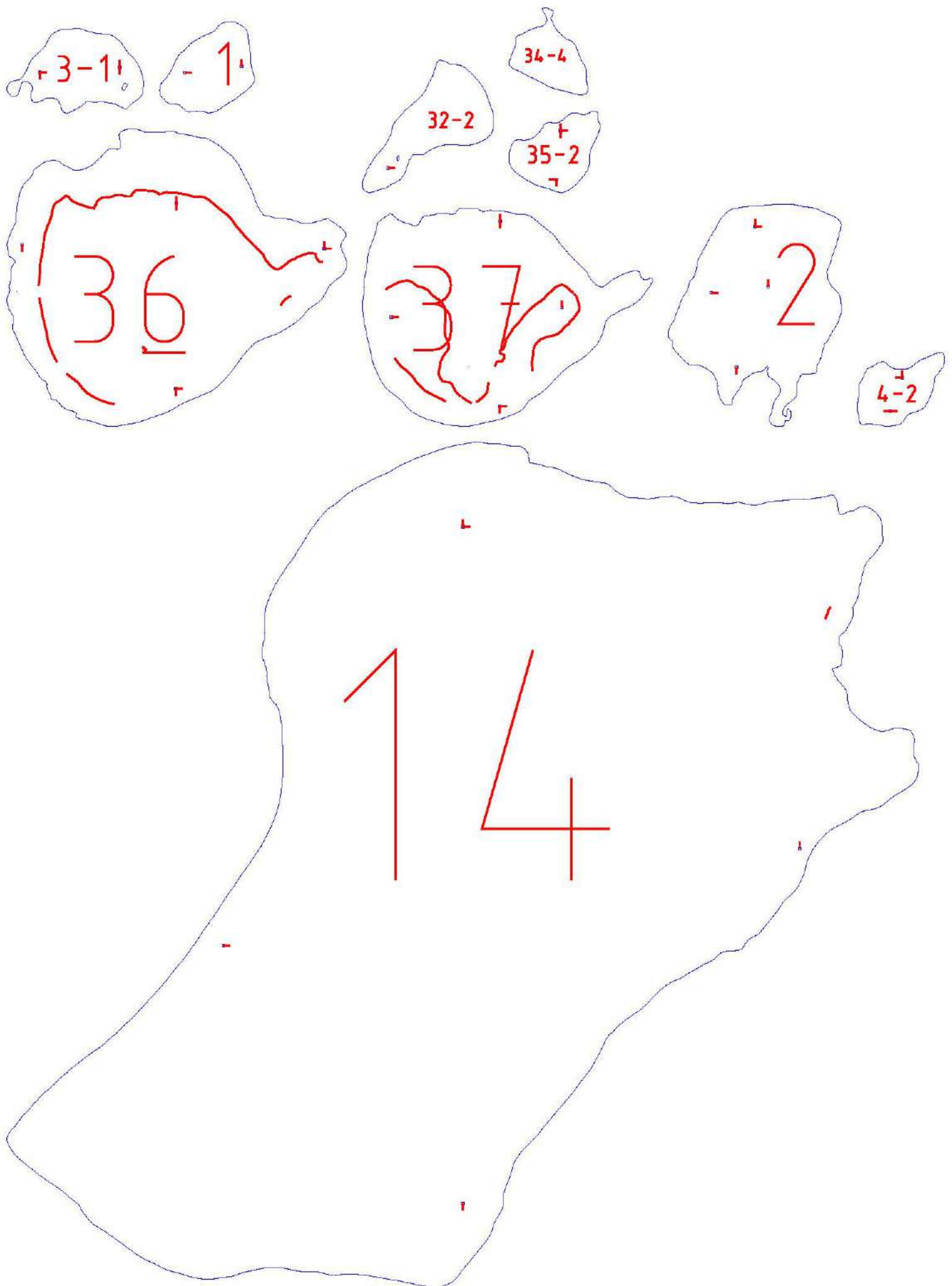
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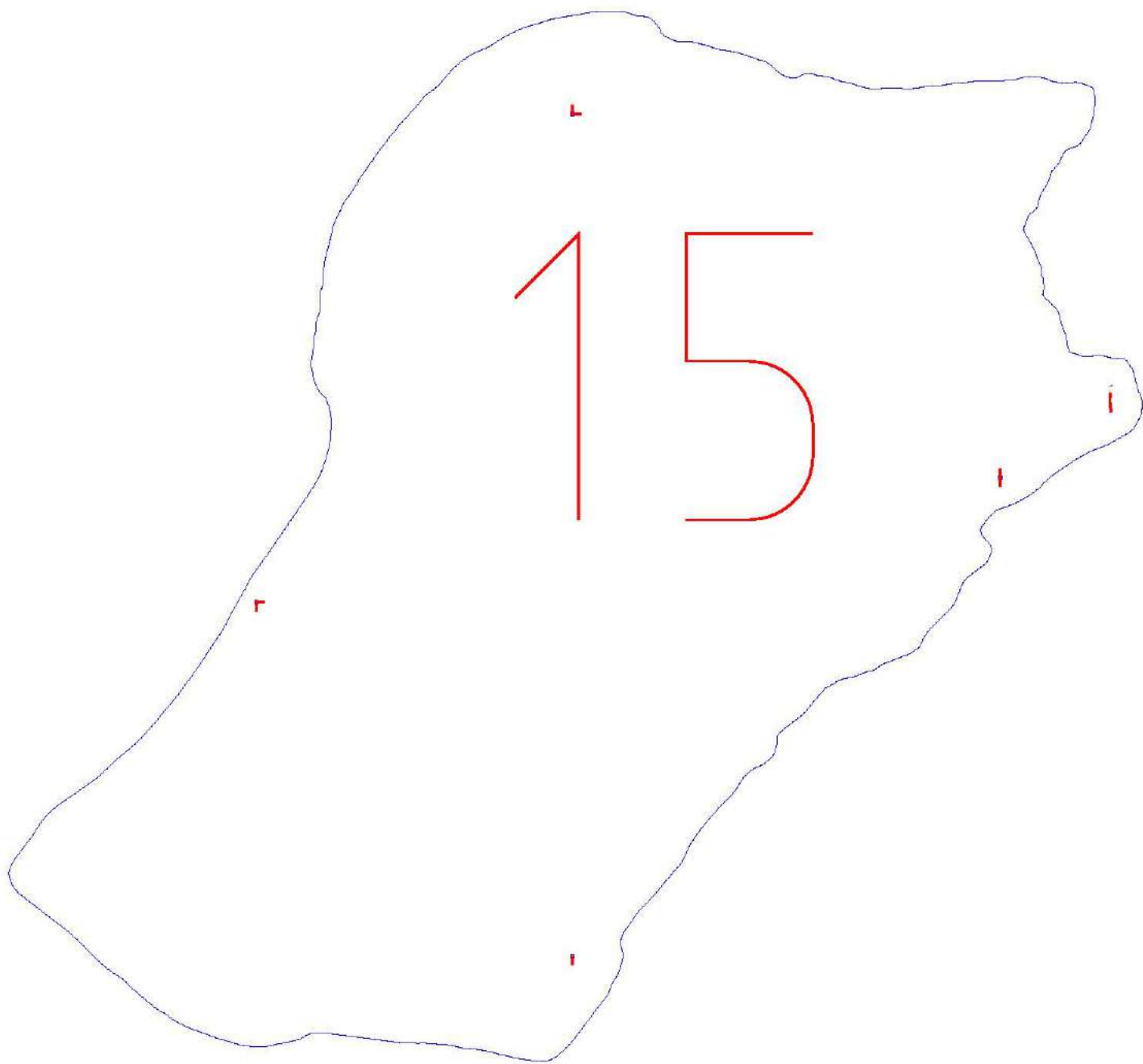
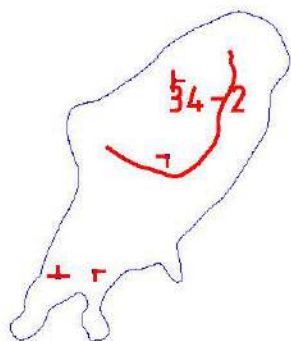
Benjamin Franklin's Mastodon Tooth

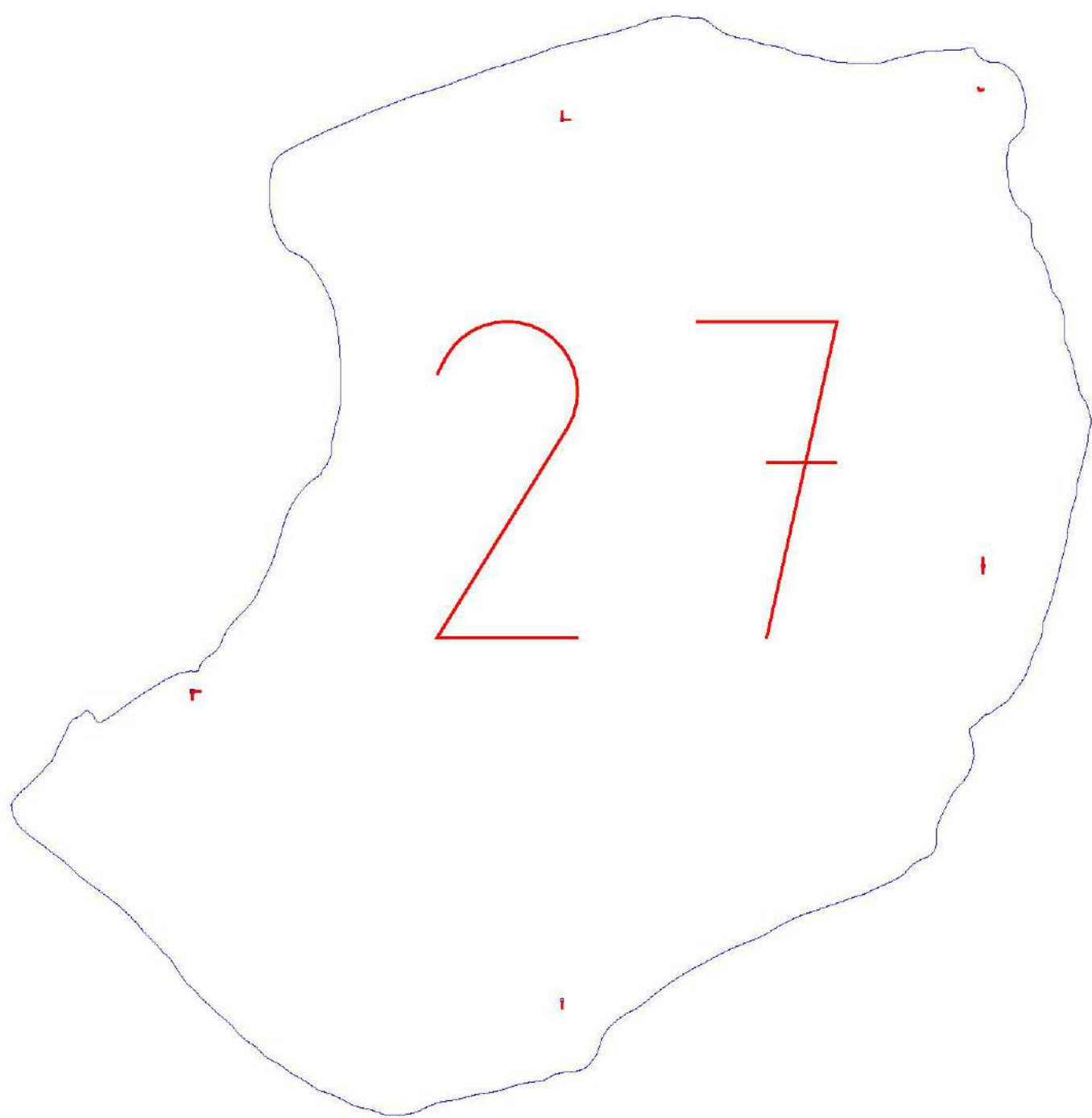
February 25, 2022

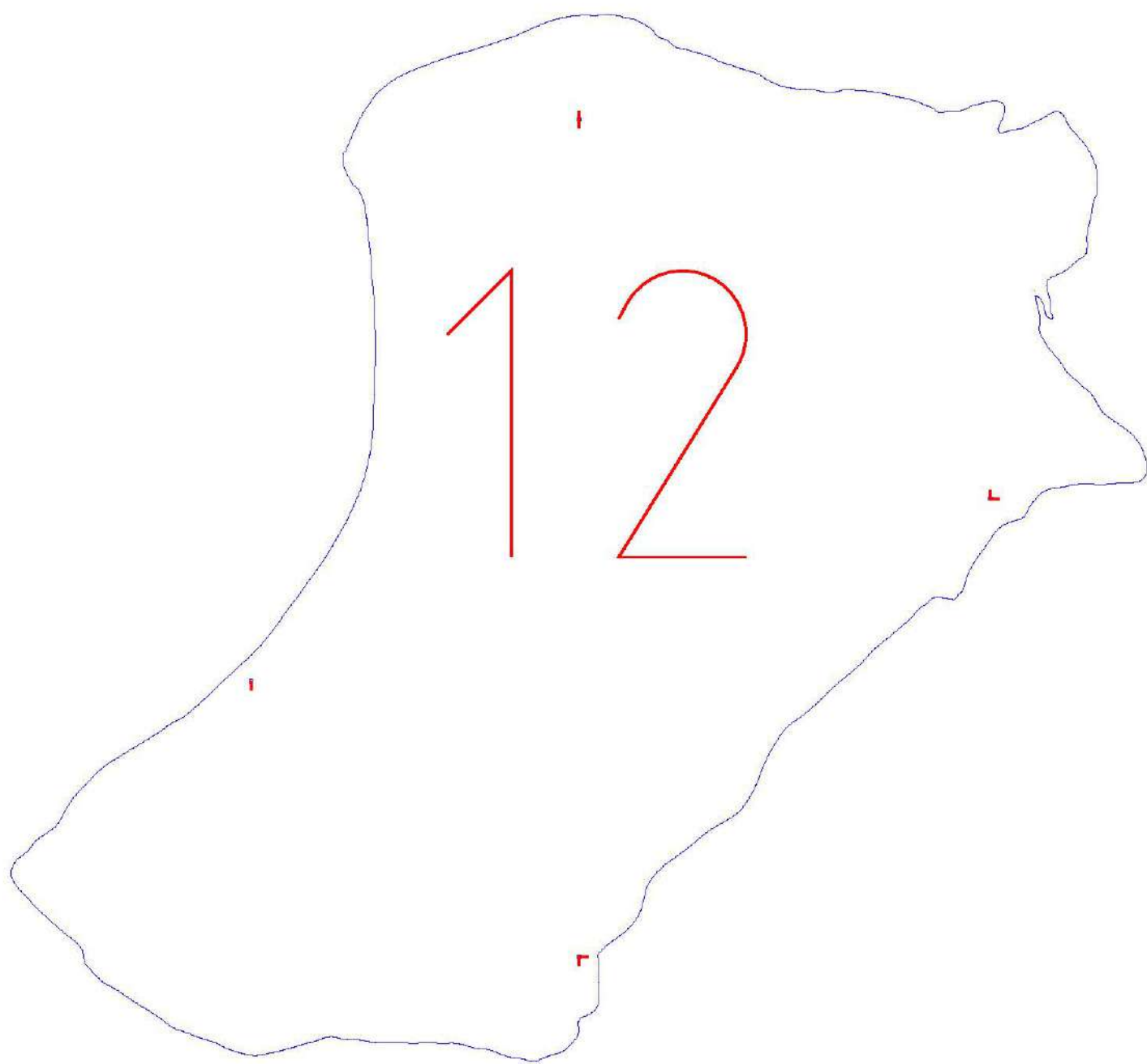


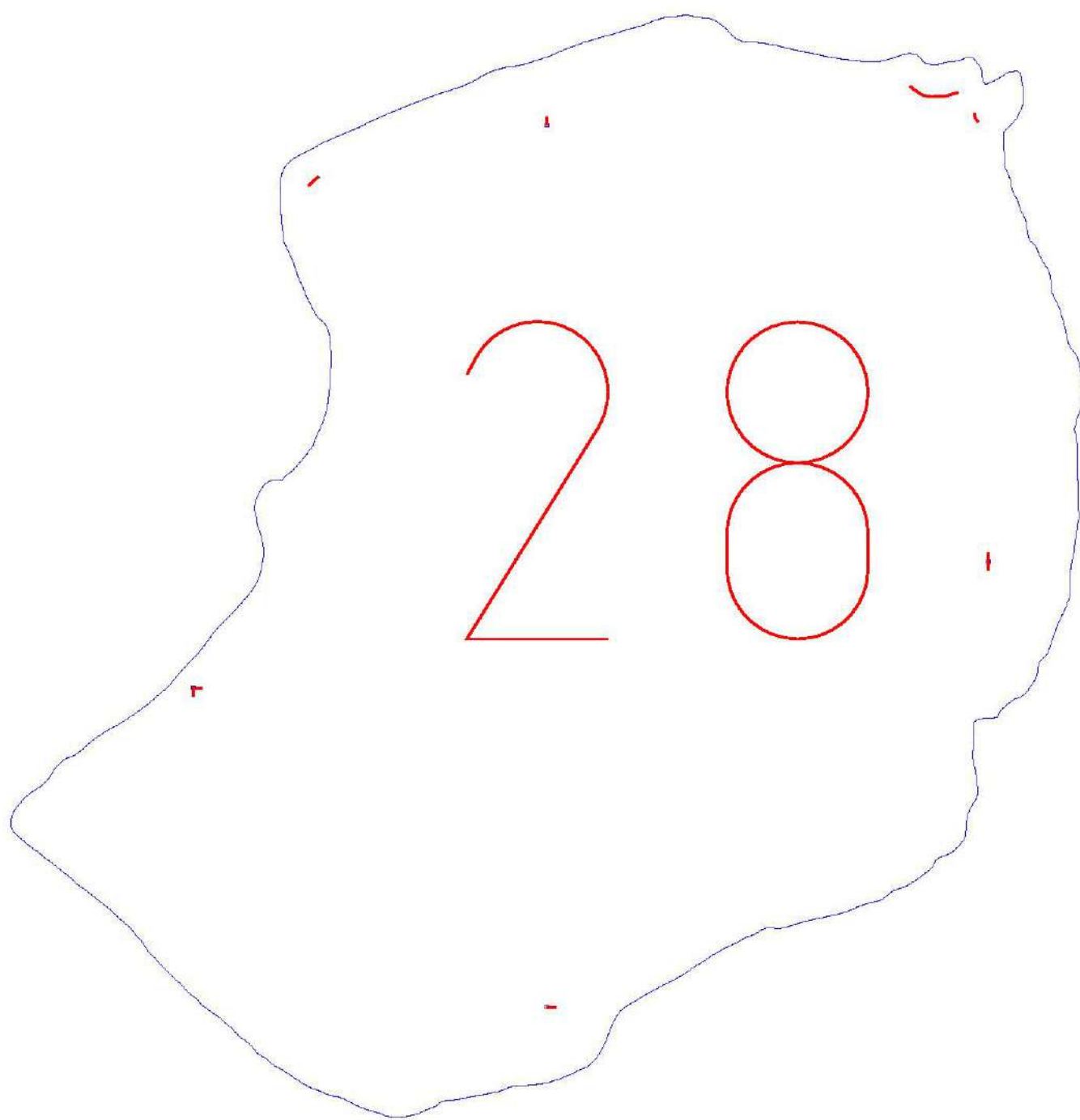


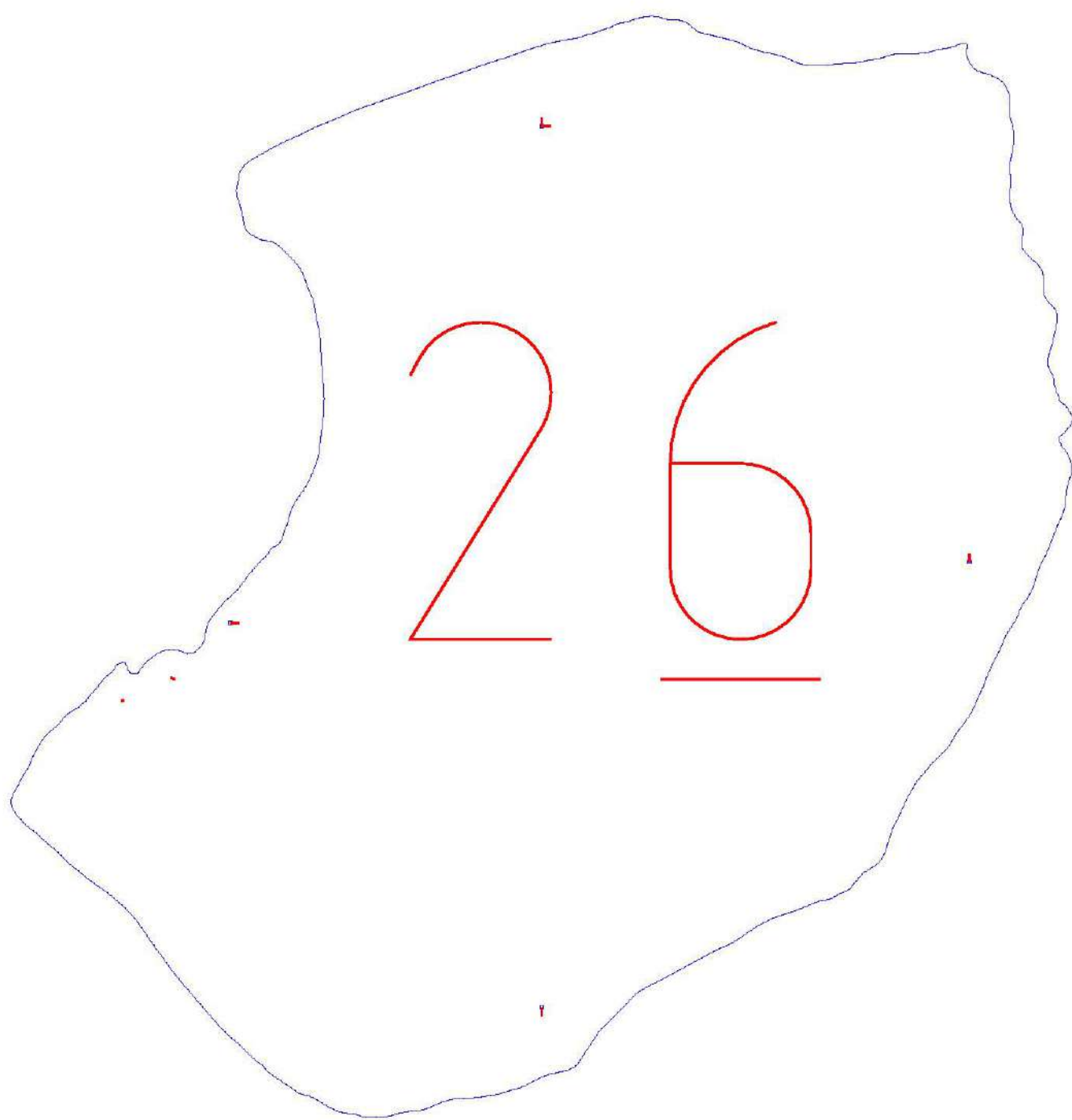


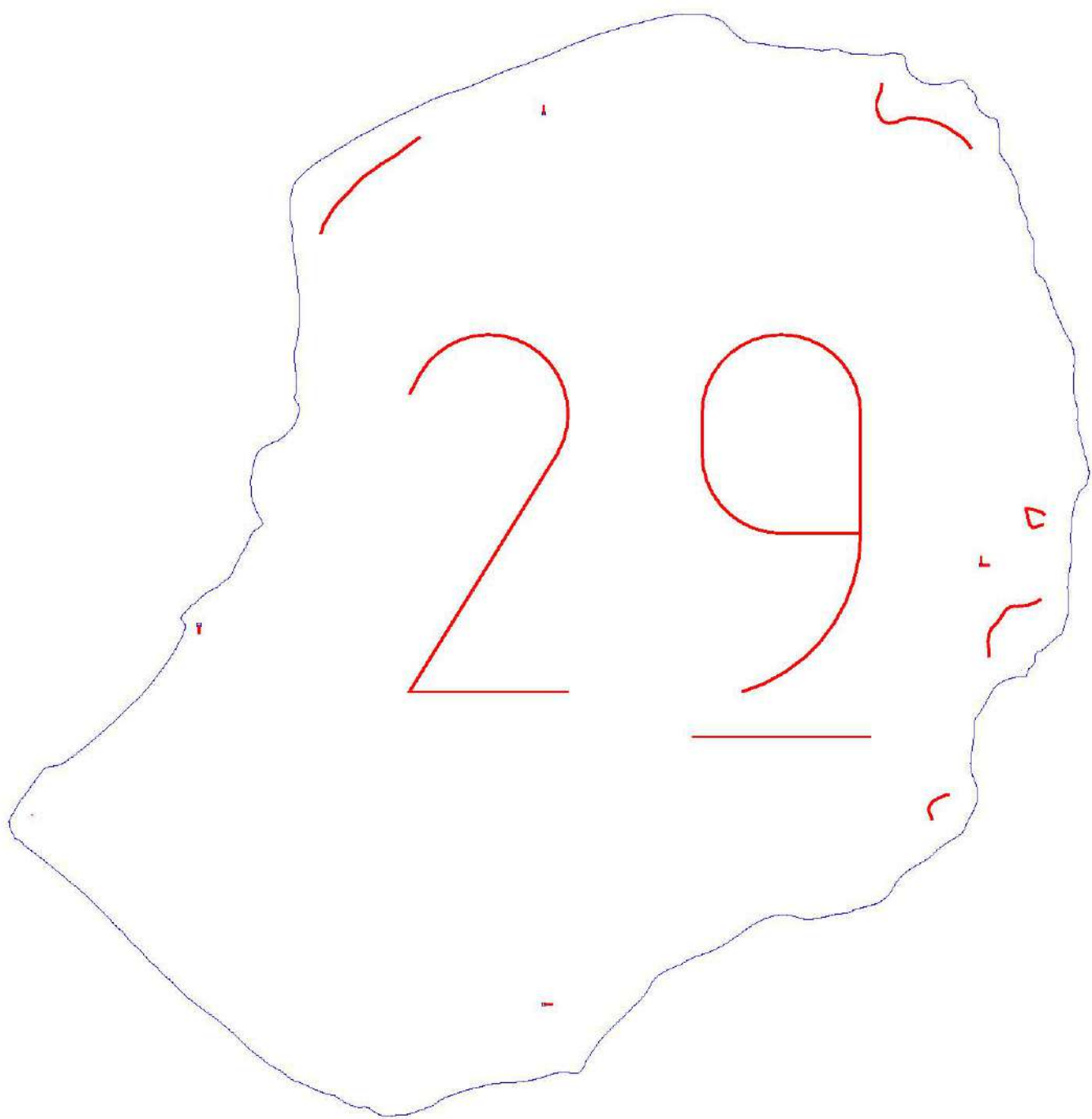




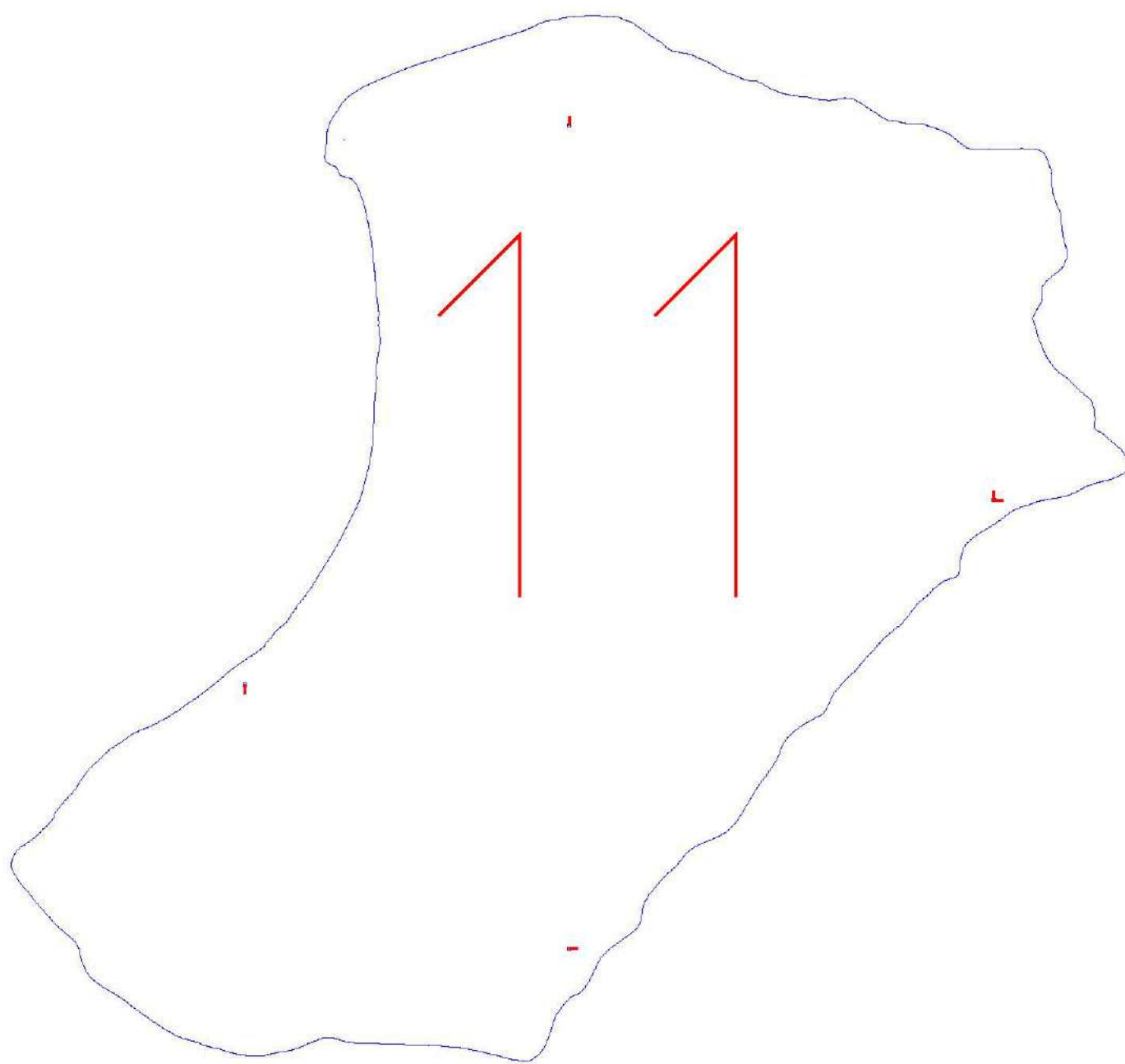


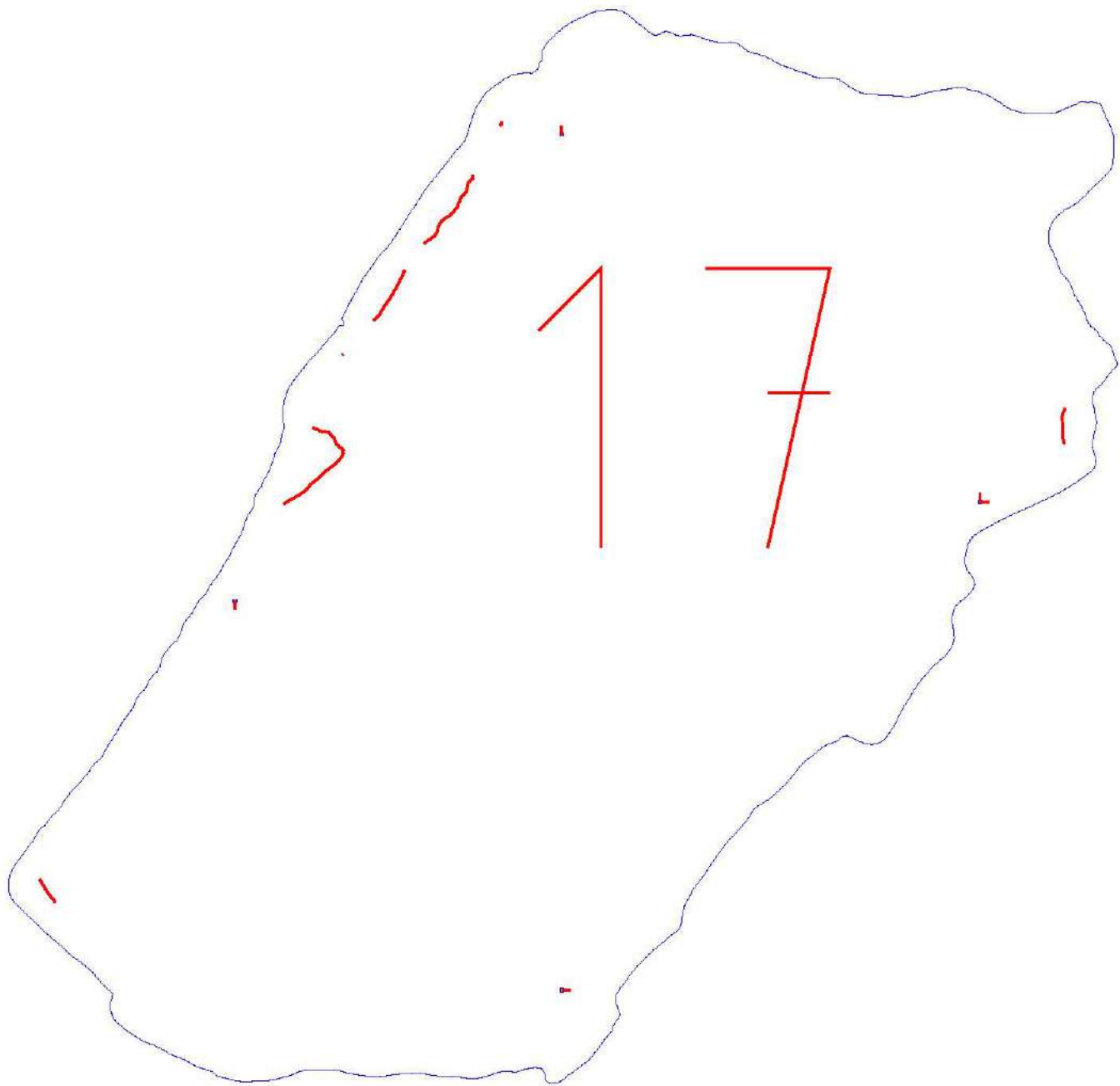


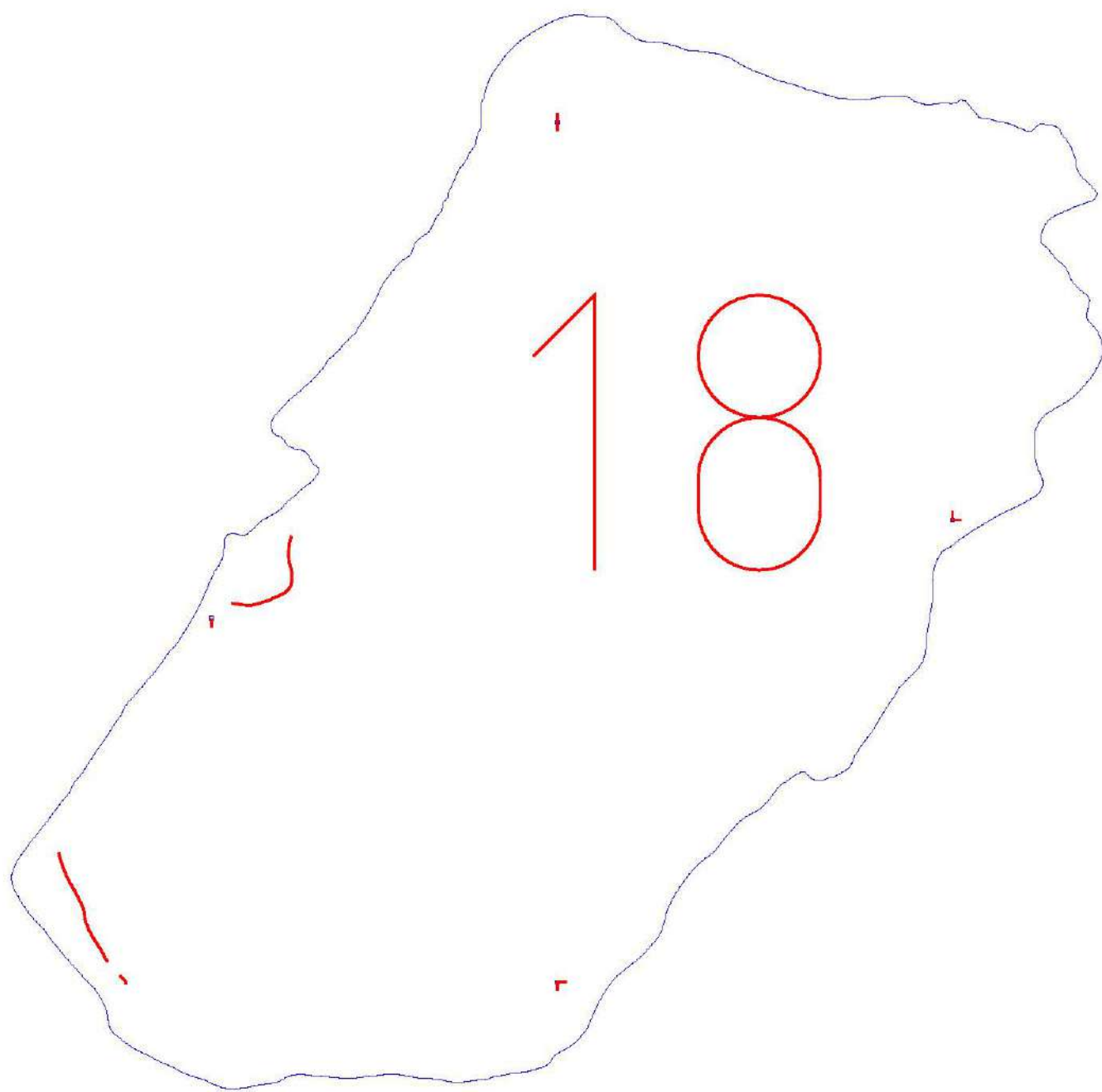


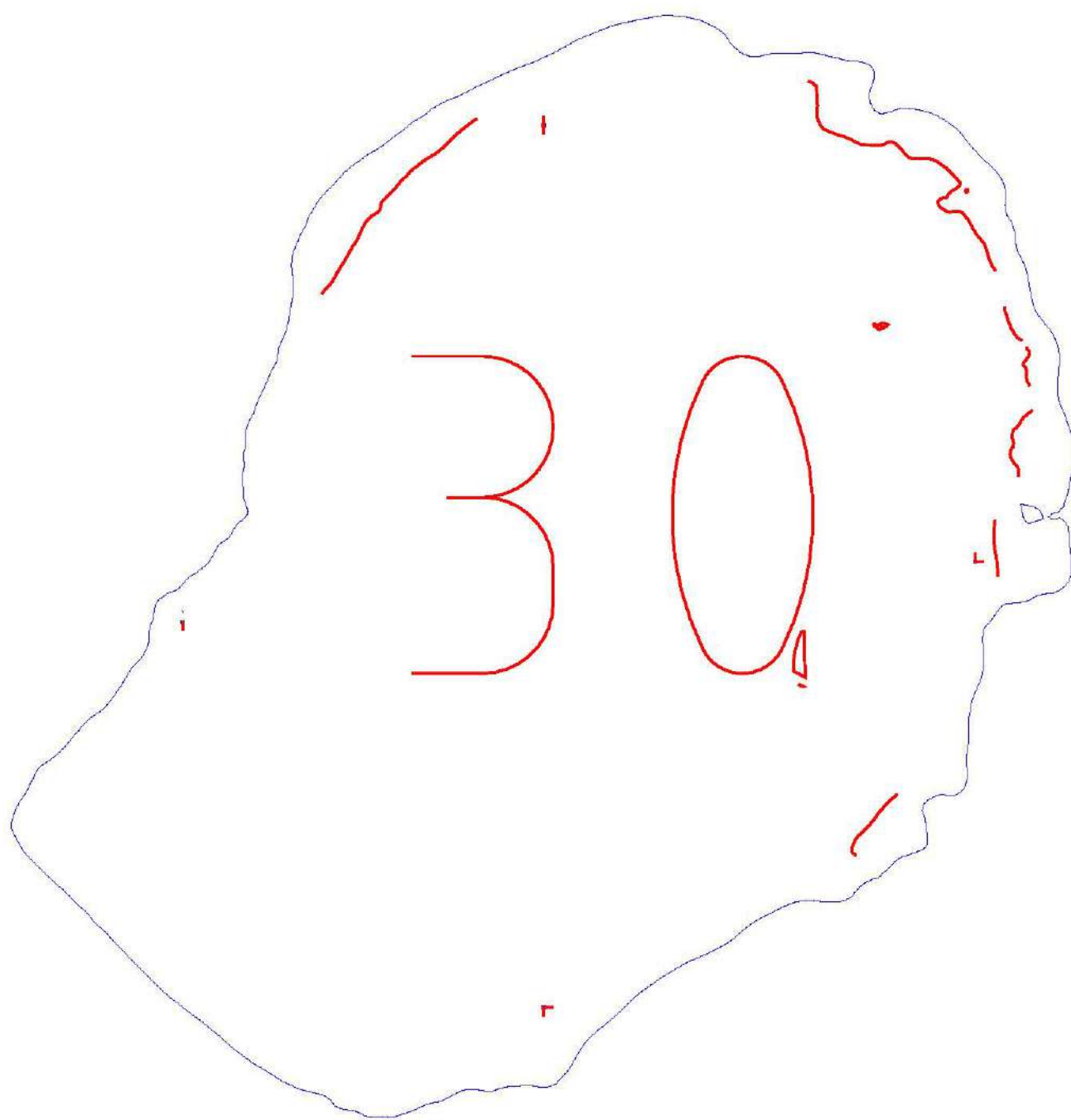


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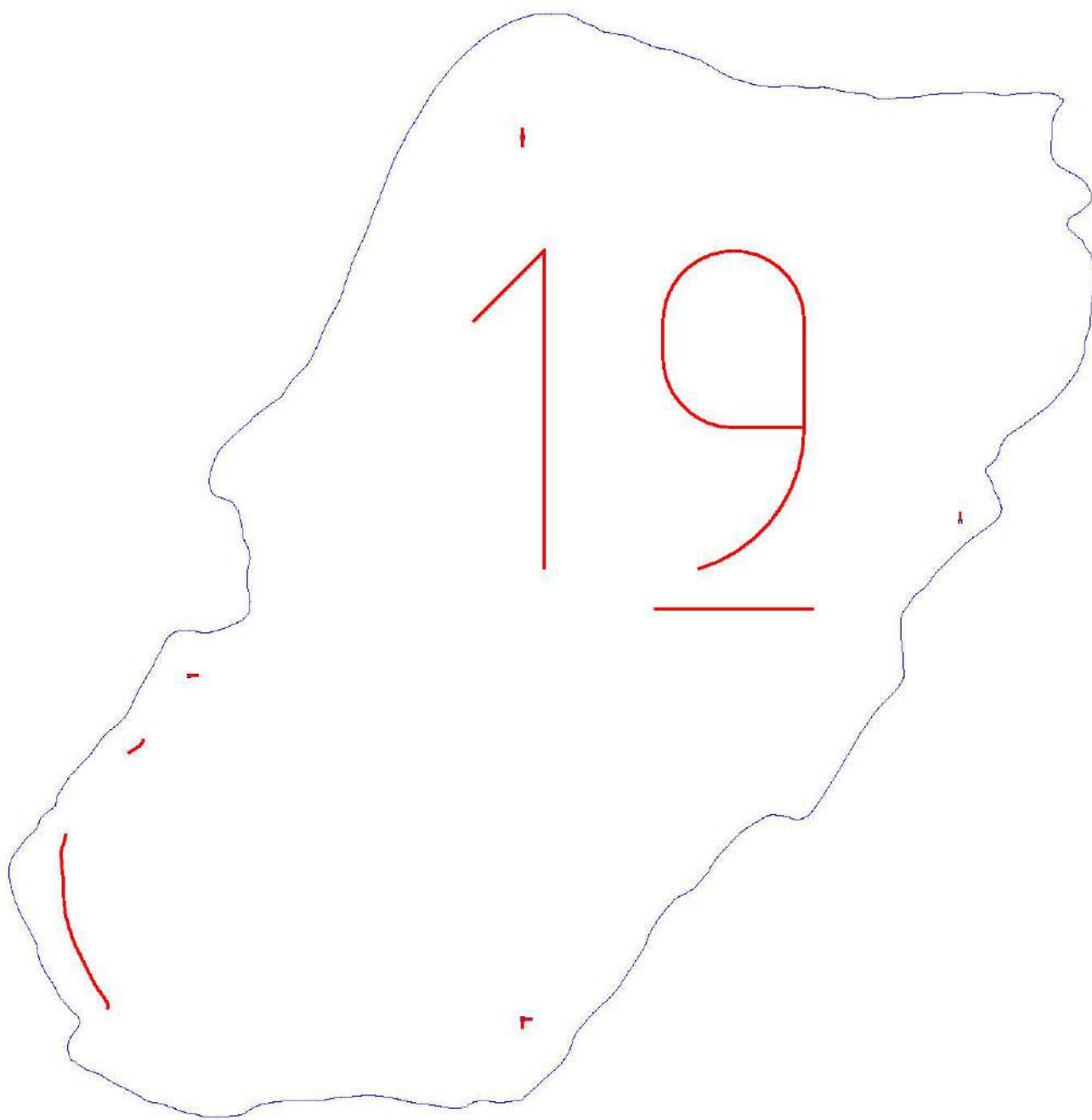
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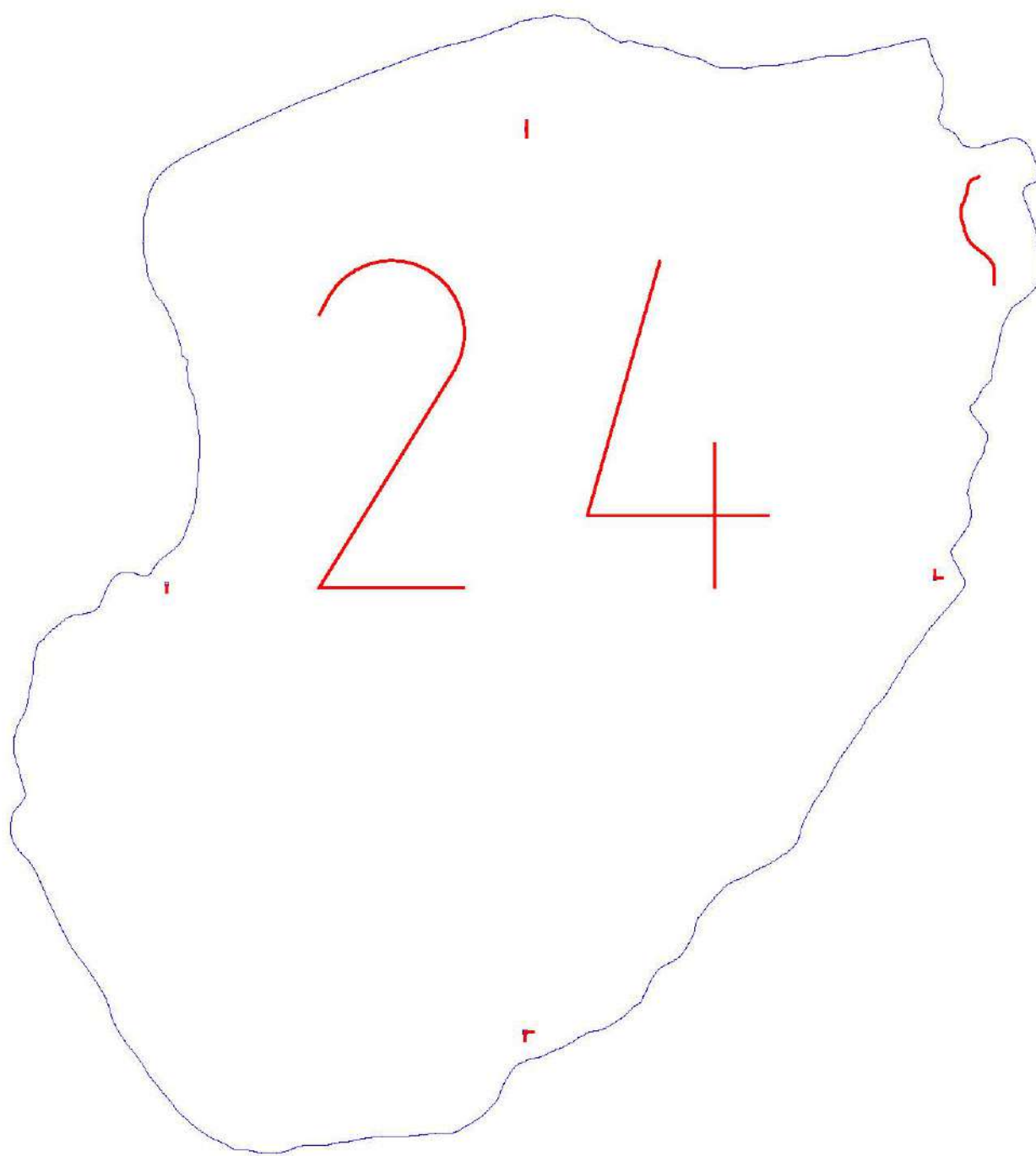
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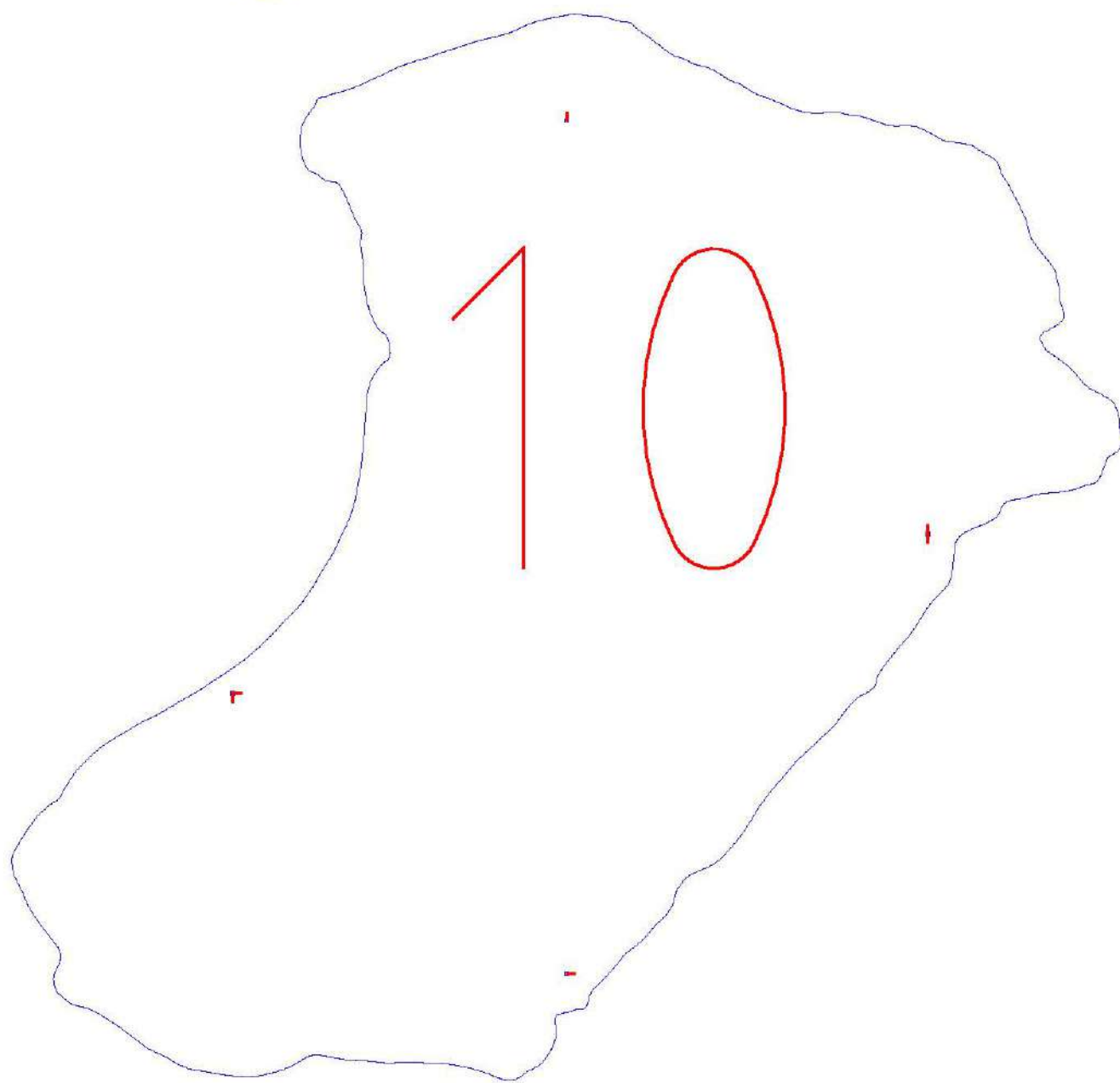
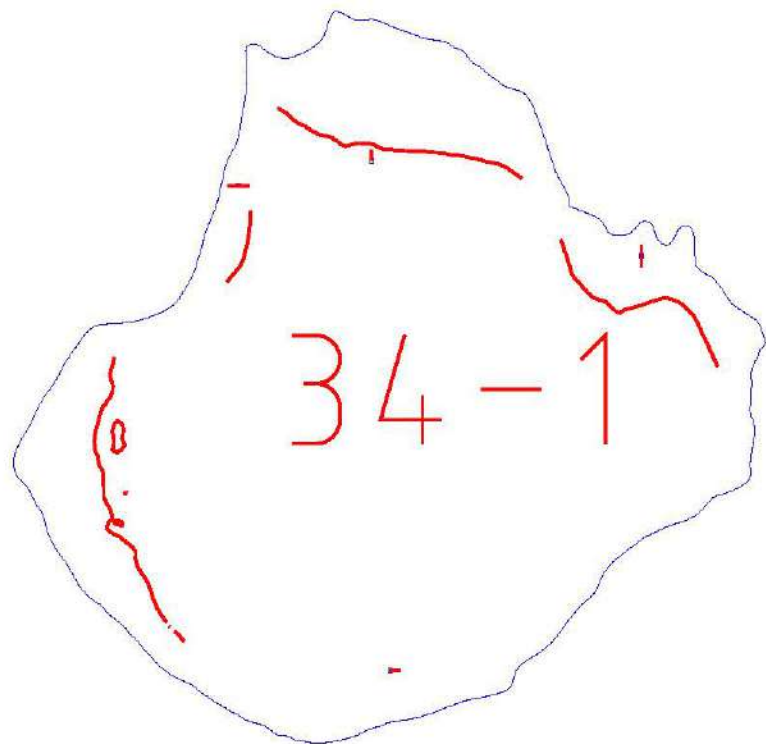
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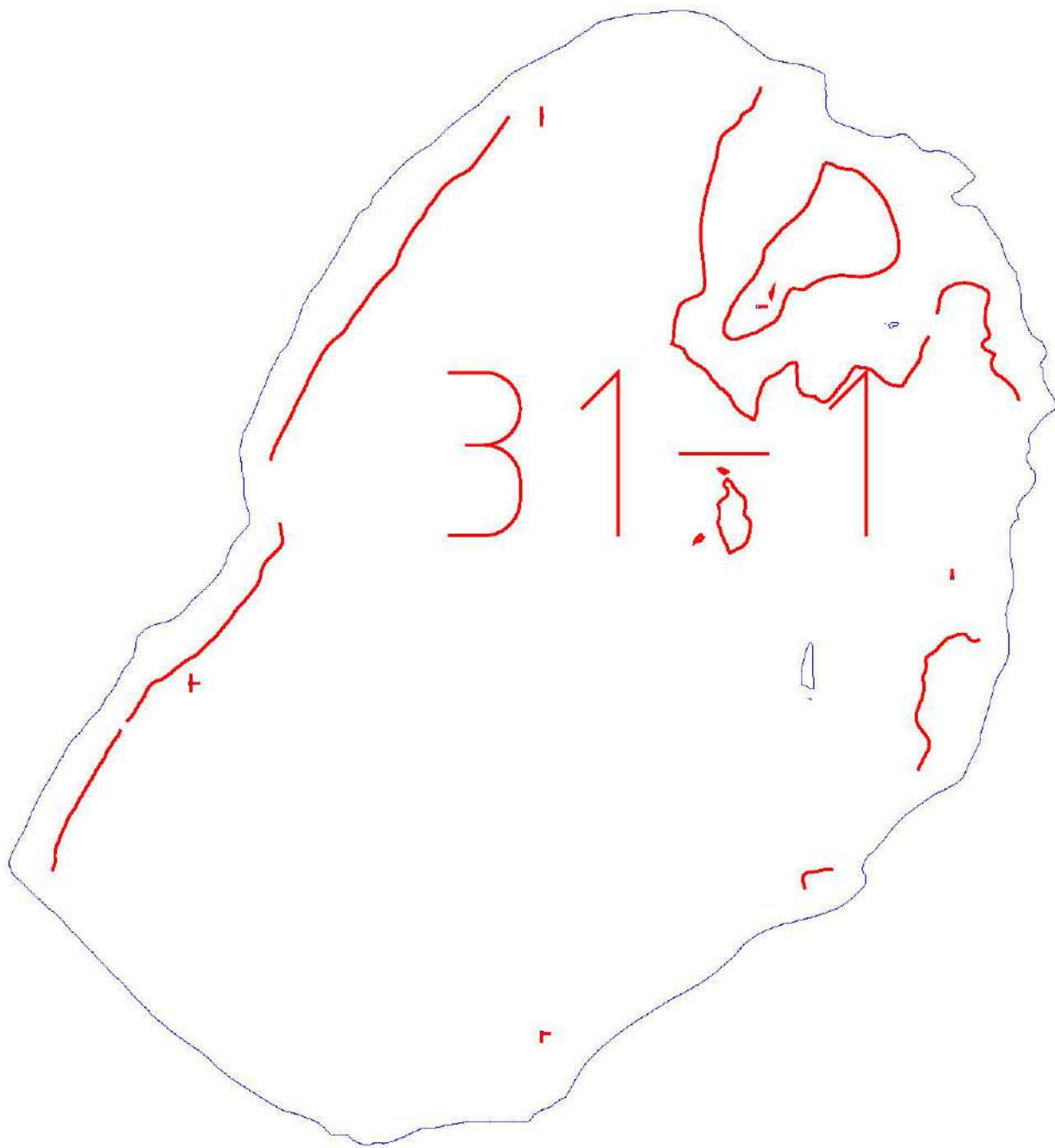
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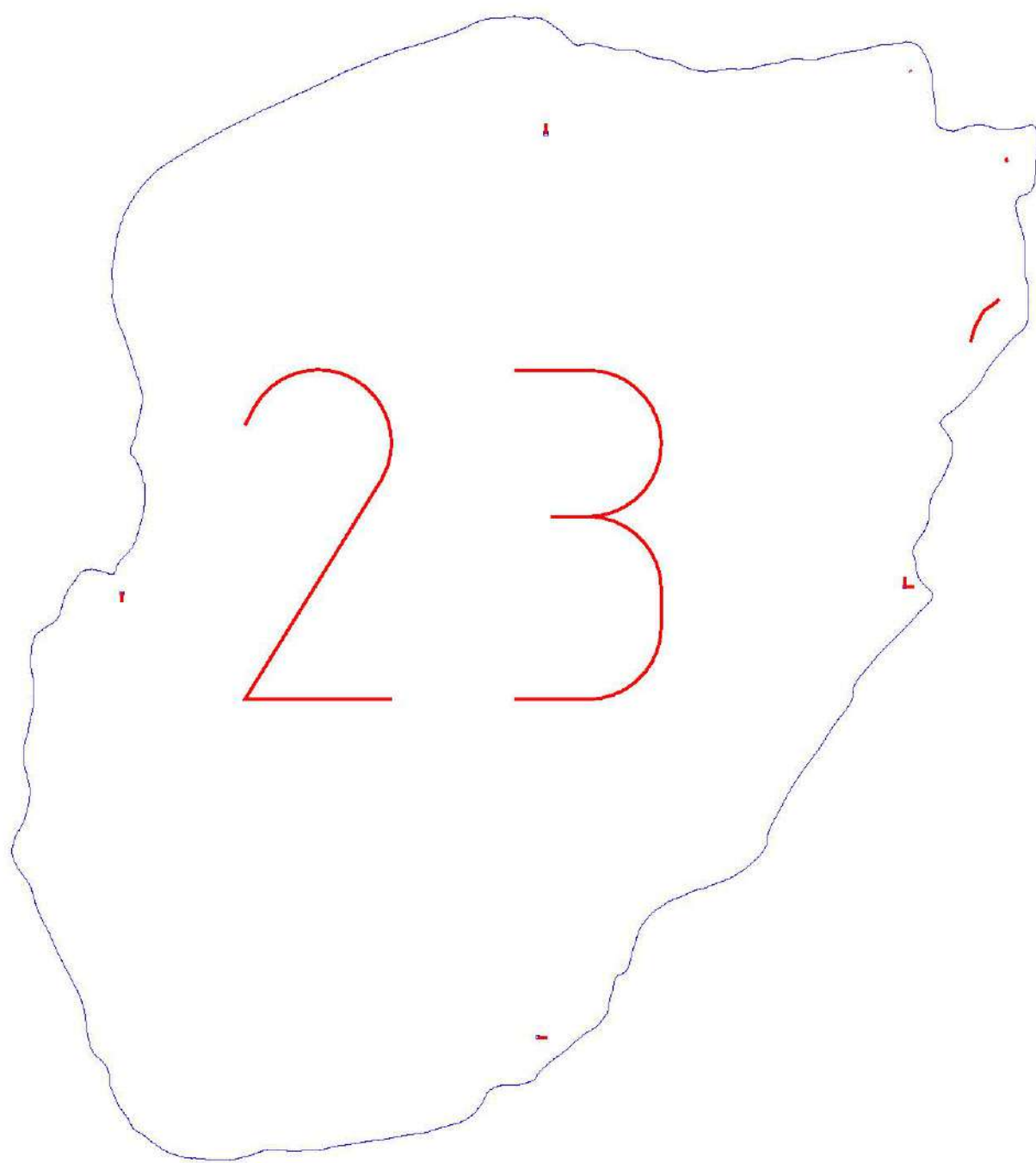
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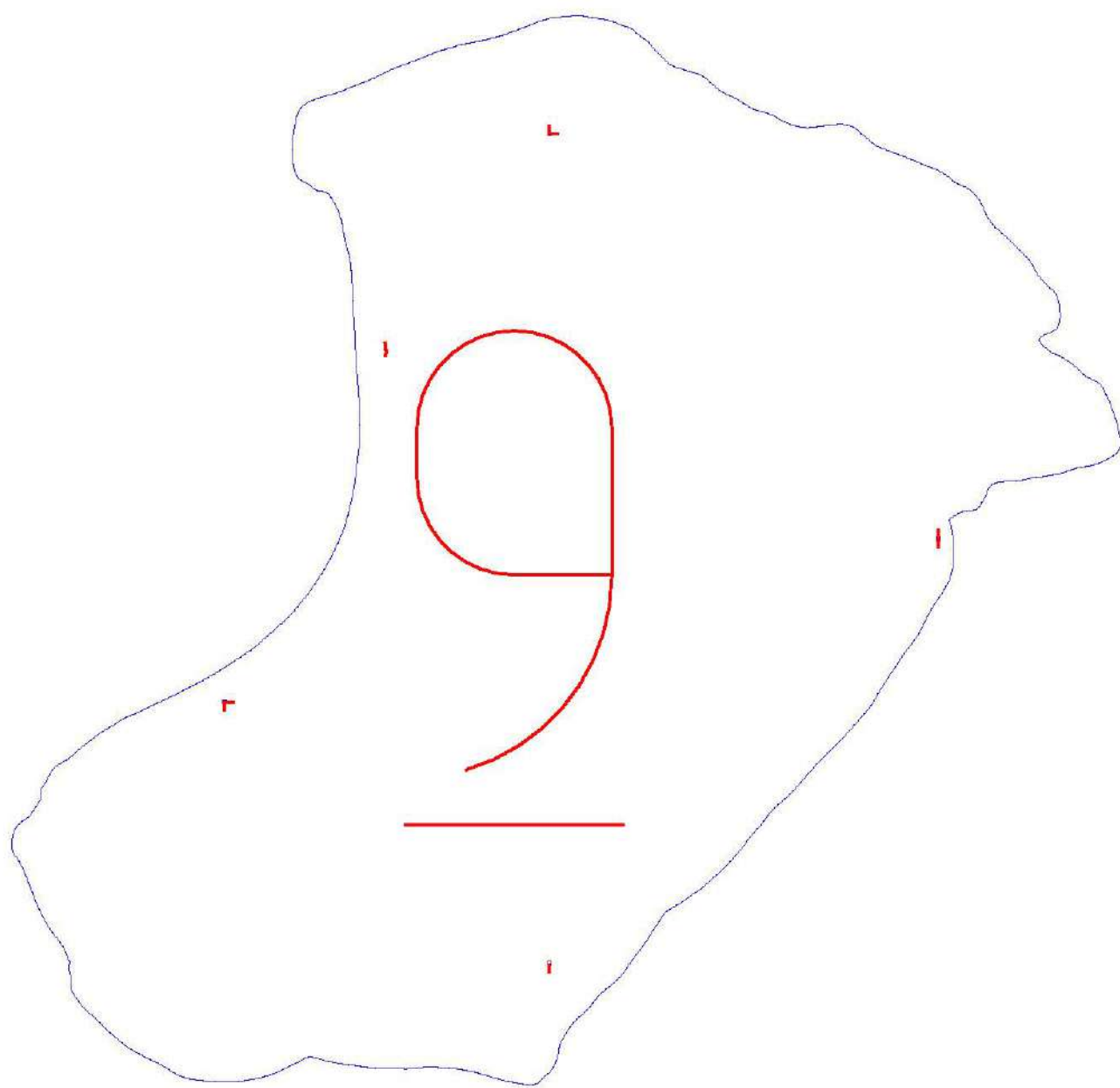
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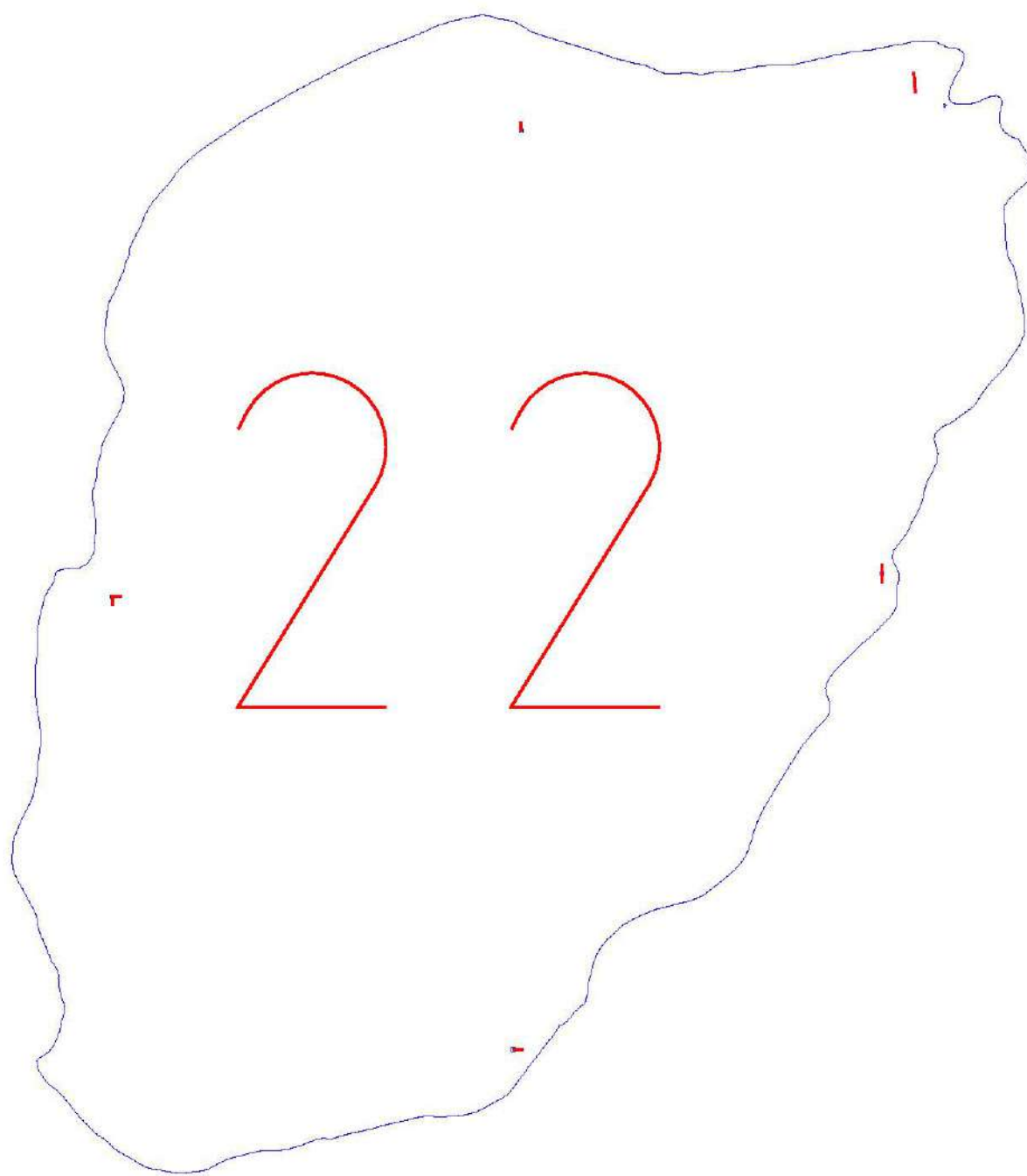
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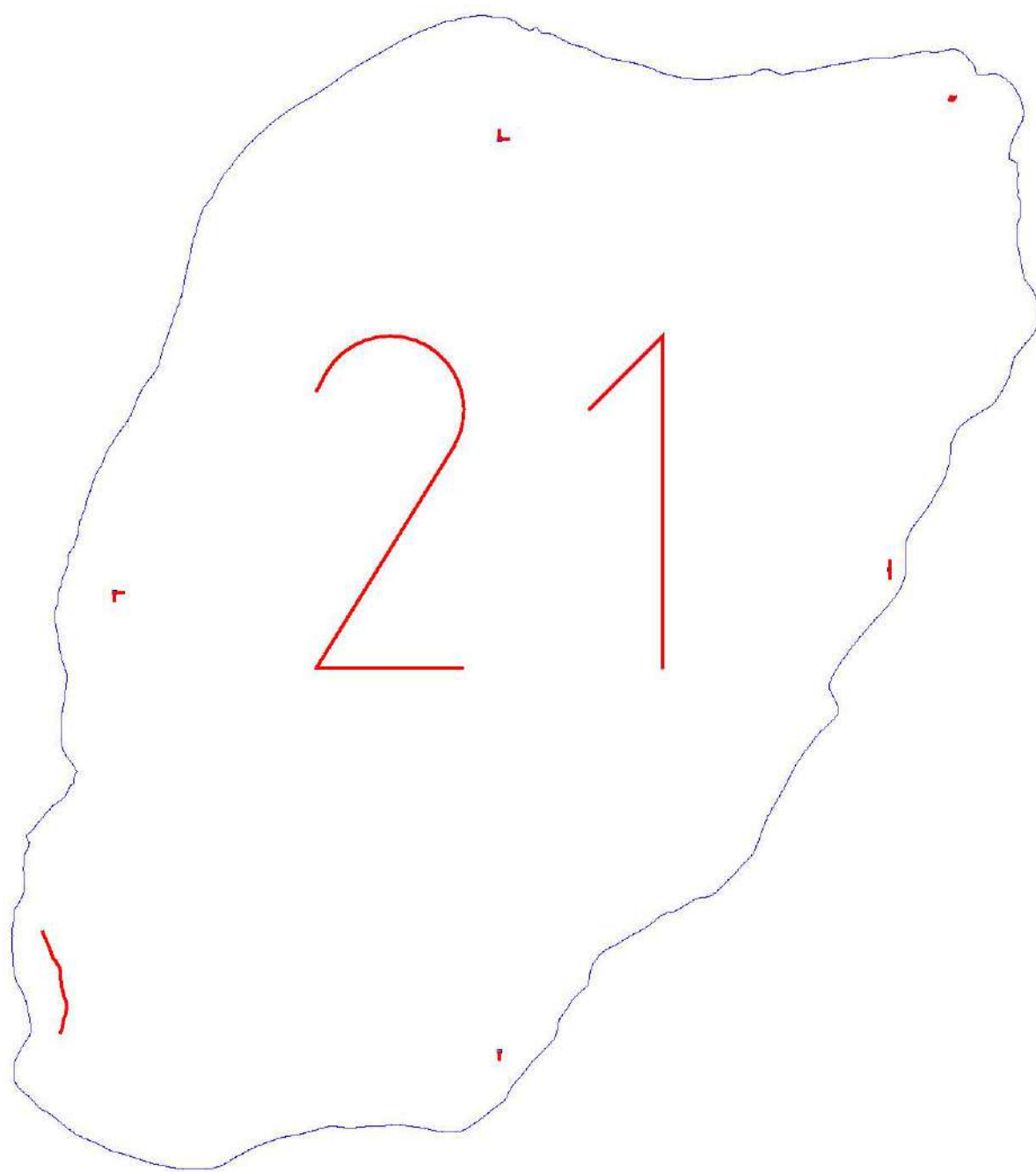
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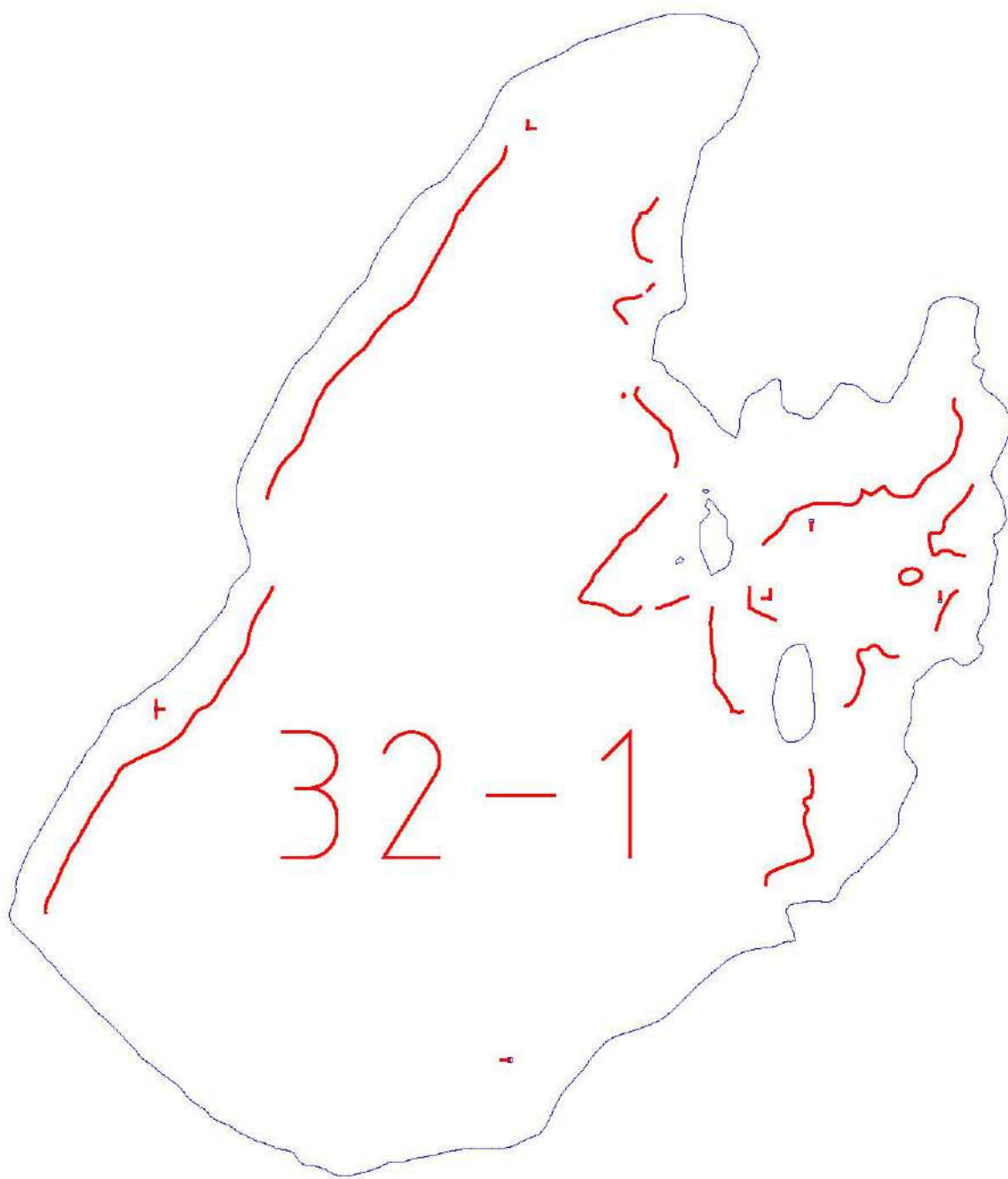


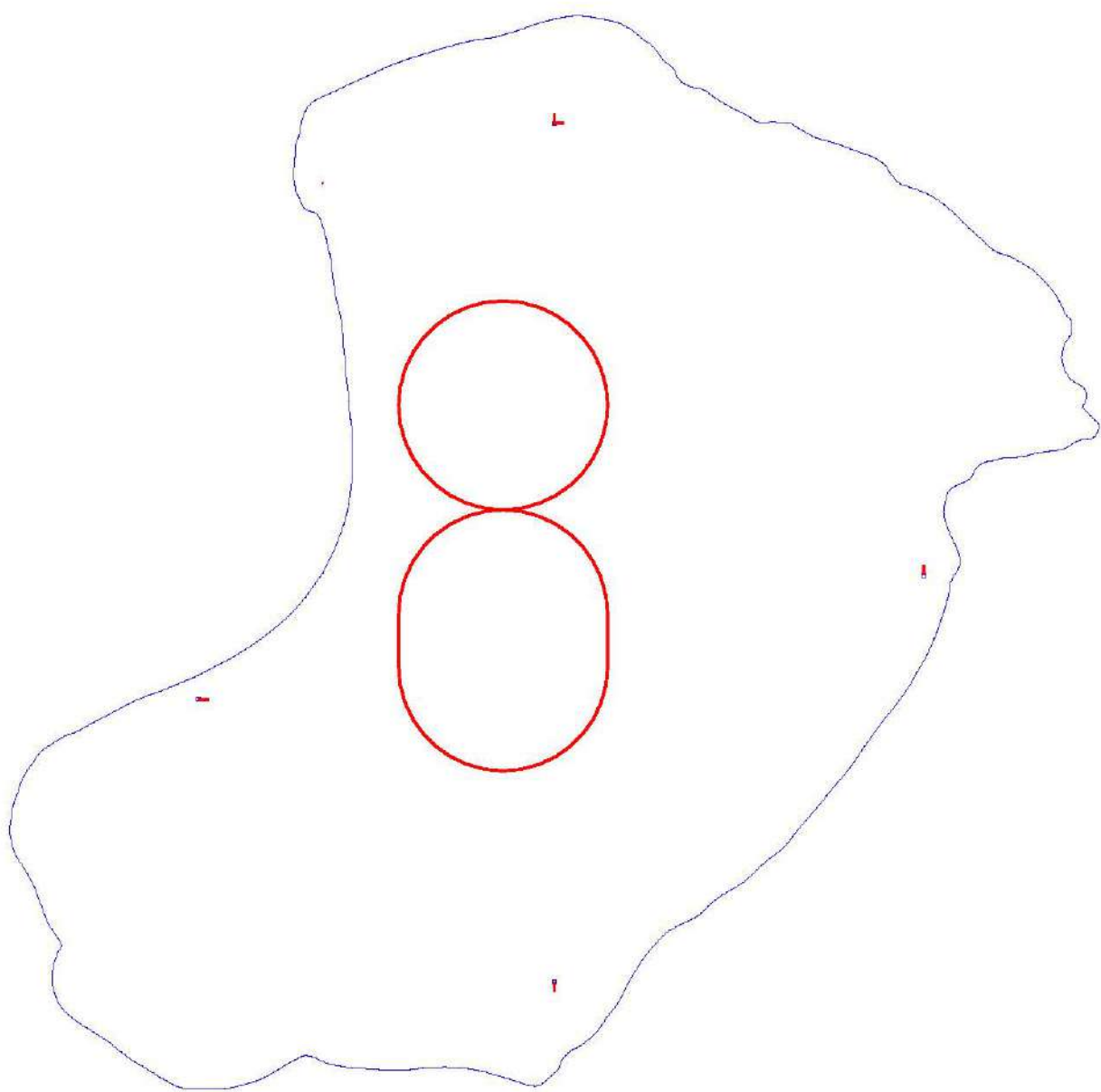


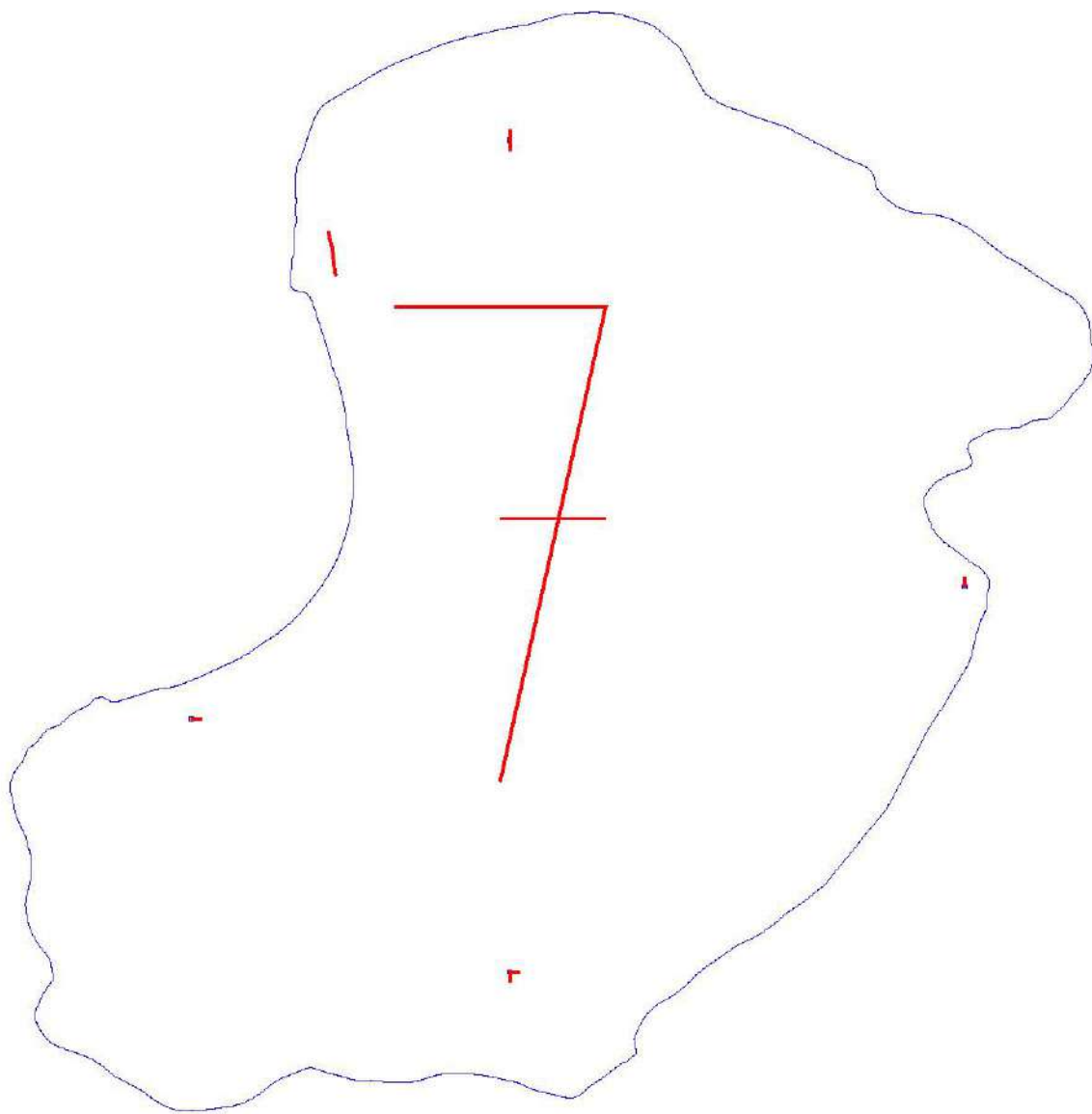
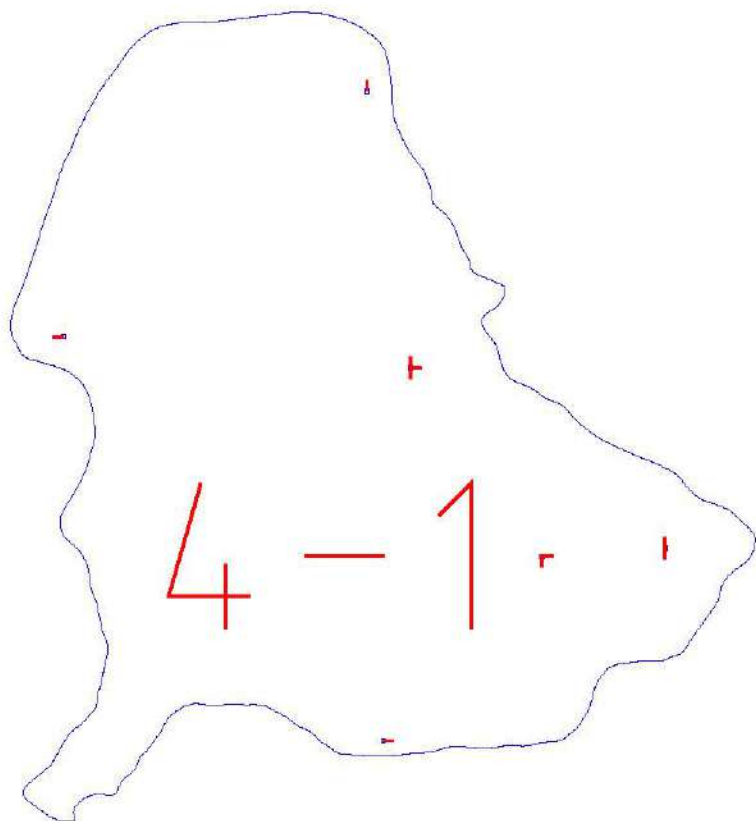


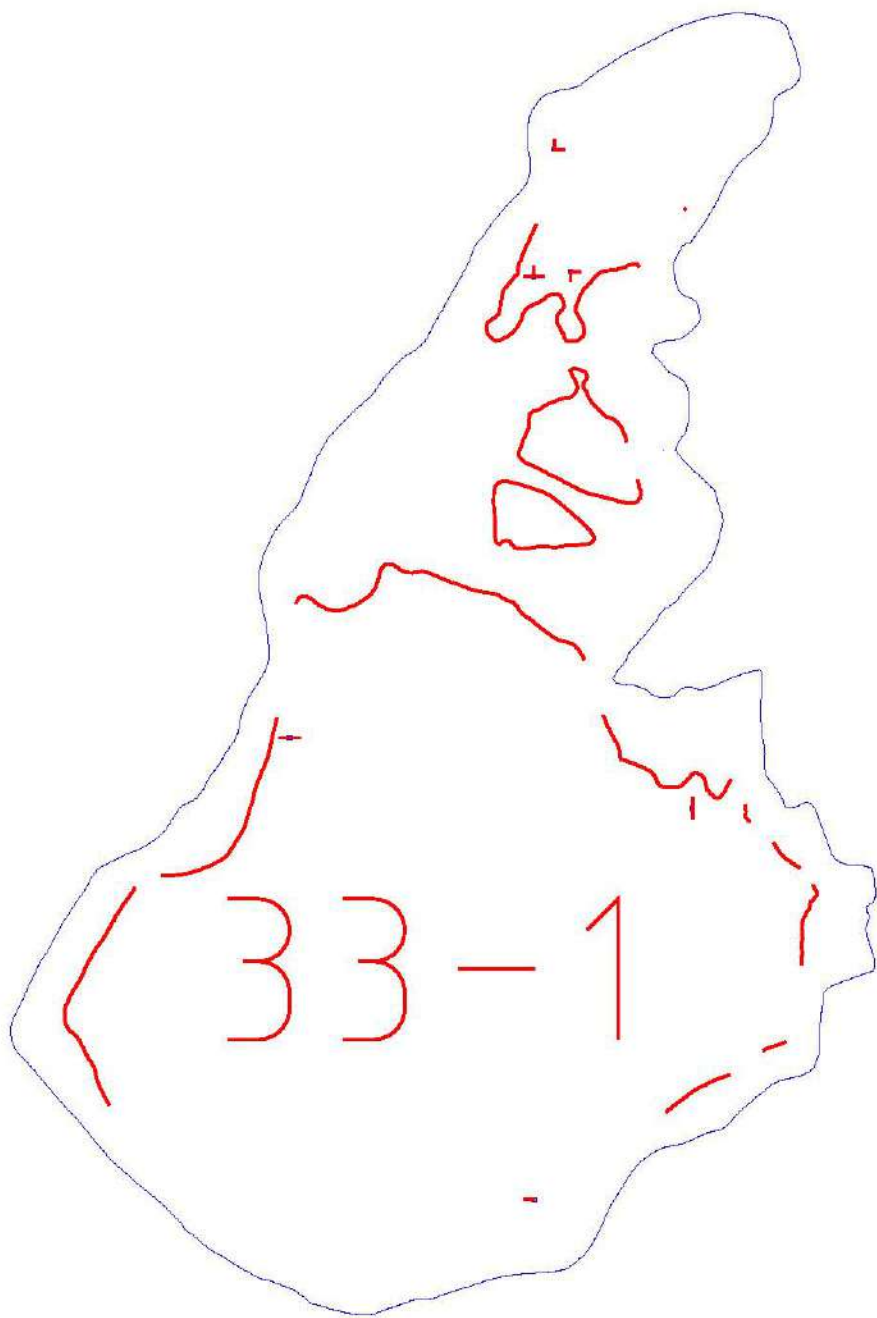


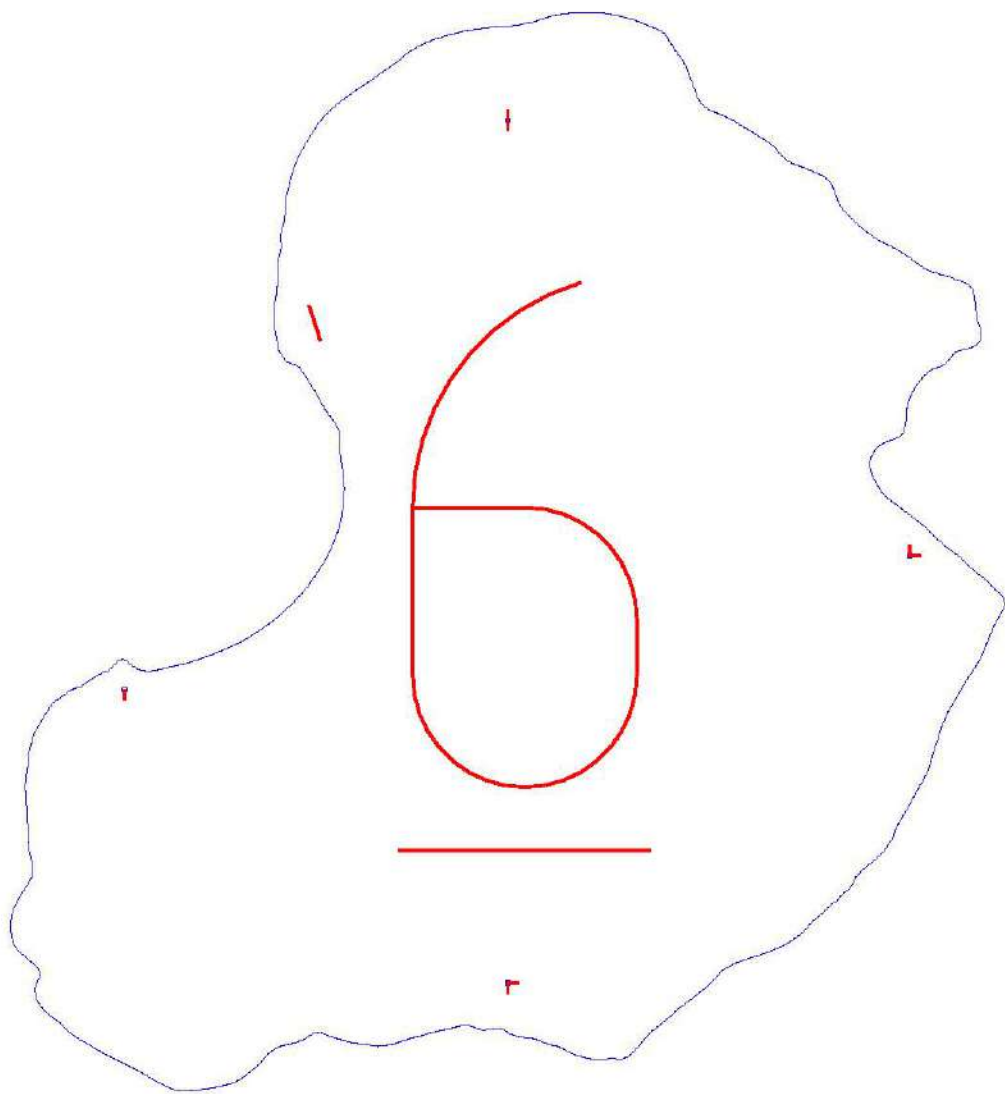
32-1

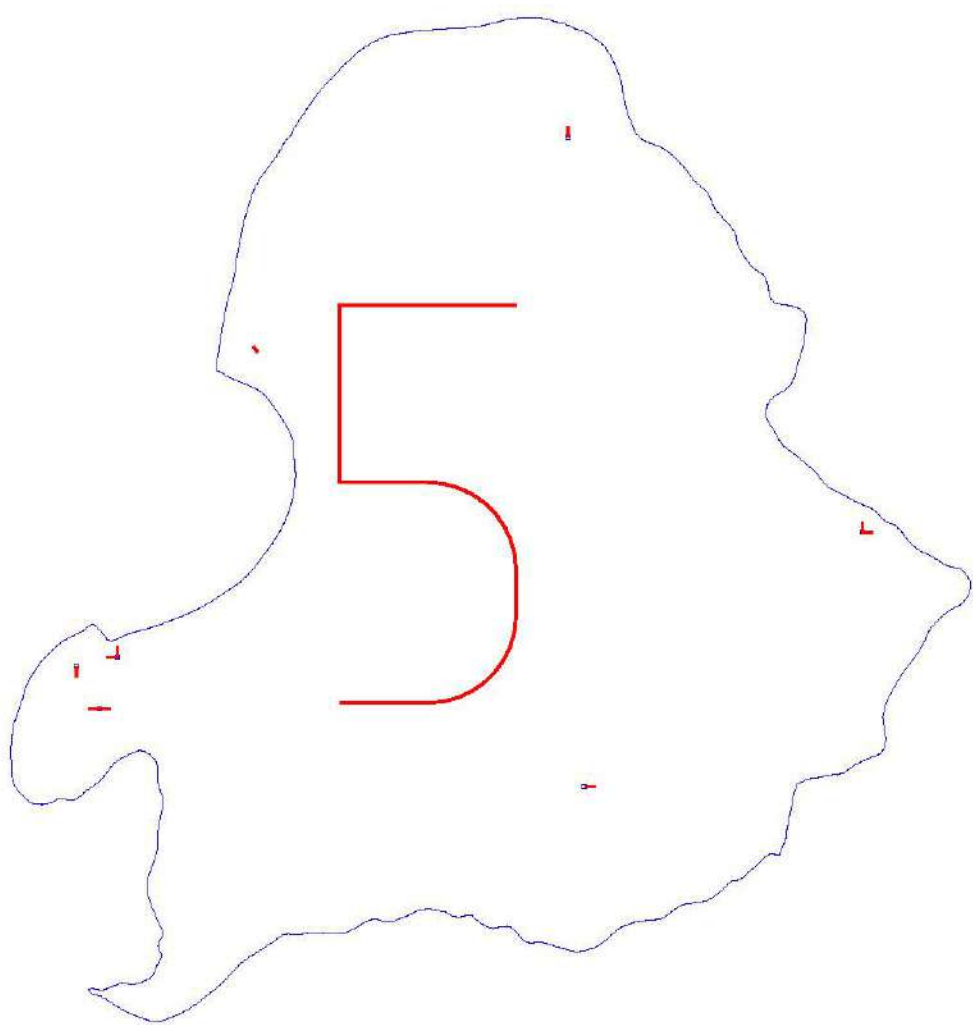














SOCIETY FOR AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY



ONLINE ARCHAEOLOGY WEEK 2021

How to use this Booklet

In order to view and complete all the activities here, you'll need to open this document using Adobe Acrobat. It will not work properly in a web browser. You can [download Adobe Acrobat Reader](#) for free if you do not already have it on your computer. Some activities can be done digitally, but others you may need to print.

If you complete any of the activities in this booklet, you can send it to the Society for American Archaeology for a small prize, an embroidered patch, pictured below. You can either email the document to public_edu@saa.org or physically mail it to:

Society for American Archaeology
Education and Outreach
1990 K St. NW #401
Washington, DC 20006



Your activity, patch, and more information about archaeology will be mailed back to you at the address you provide here:

Name:

Address:

Online Archaeology Week 2021

This booklet was created by Emily Long, Bernard Means, and Beth Pruitt for the Society for American Archaeology's online celebration of archaeology April 5-9, 2021. View other digital resources at www.saa.org/publicweek. For any questions, please contact public_edu@saa.org. To give us feedback, please go to the [Online Archaeology Week Feedback Wall](#).

Discover Archaeology

Archaeologists study the whole human past through the things people left behind all over the world. You might think of archaeologists as just searching for gold, digging up tombs, and examining mummies. It's part of the job of archaeologists to help explain what we really do.

Do you think these popular ideas about archaeology are true? Check either true or false, and turn the page to find out the answers!

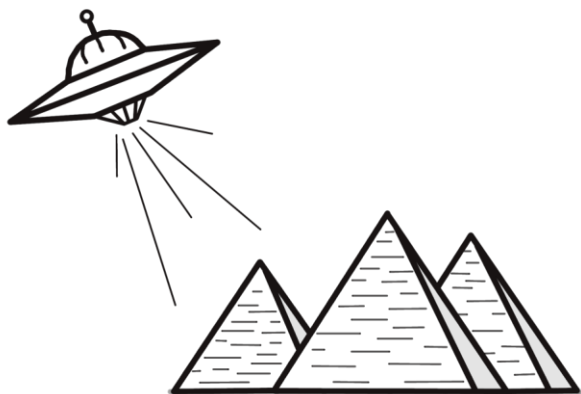
Archaeologists study and dig up dinosaurs



☐ True

☐ False

There is NO archaeological evidence that aliens built the pyramids in Egypt



☐ True

☐ False

Archaeologists get to keep or sell anything they find



☐ True

☐ False

Discover Archaeology: Answers

Archaeologists study and dig up dinosaurs

False

Archaeologists study the human past by what people leave behind, like stone tools, baskets, and buildings. They don't study dinosaurs! Scientists who study ancient animals, like dinosaurs, are called paleontologists.

There is NO archaeological evidence that aliens built the pyramids in Egypt

True

The ancient Egyptians built the pyramids, not aliens! People are capable of making amazing things. Archaeologists study how people made the pyramids through the tools the ancient Egyptians left behind around 4,500 years ago.

Archaeologists get to keep or sell anything they find

False

Archaeologists can't personally keep whatever they find while surveying or excavating. There are laws preventing the sale of these artifacts, too. Archaeologists want to use what they find to understand the past and share it with future generations.

What's one thing you've learned about archaeology so far?

Discover Artifacts

Artifacts are everyday things made or used by humans and are found where people used to live and work. There are many kinds of artifacts, such as tools, containers, toys, decorations, or anything else a person might use. Archaeologists study artifacts to learn more about the people who made these objects and what happened in the past.

Studying pieces of pottery, known as **sherds**, can tell archaeologists about what people ate and how they cooked or stored food. They can also examine **flakes**, the bits of rock that are created when making stone tools, to figure out how people made tools like arrowheads and spearheads. Studying different kinds of containers like baskets, pottery, bottles, and tin cans can tell archaeologists about when people moved to that area and the kinds of activities they were doing, such as ranching or farming. Find artifacts in the word search below:

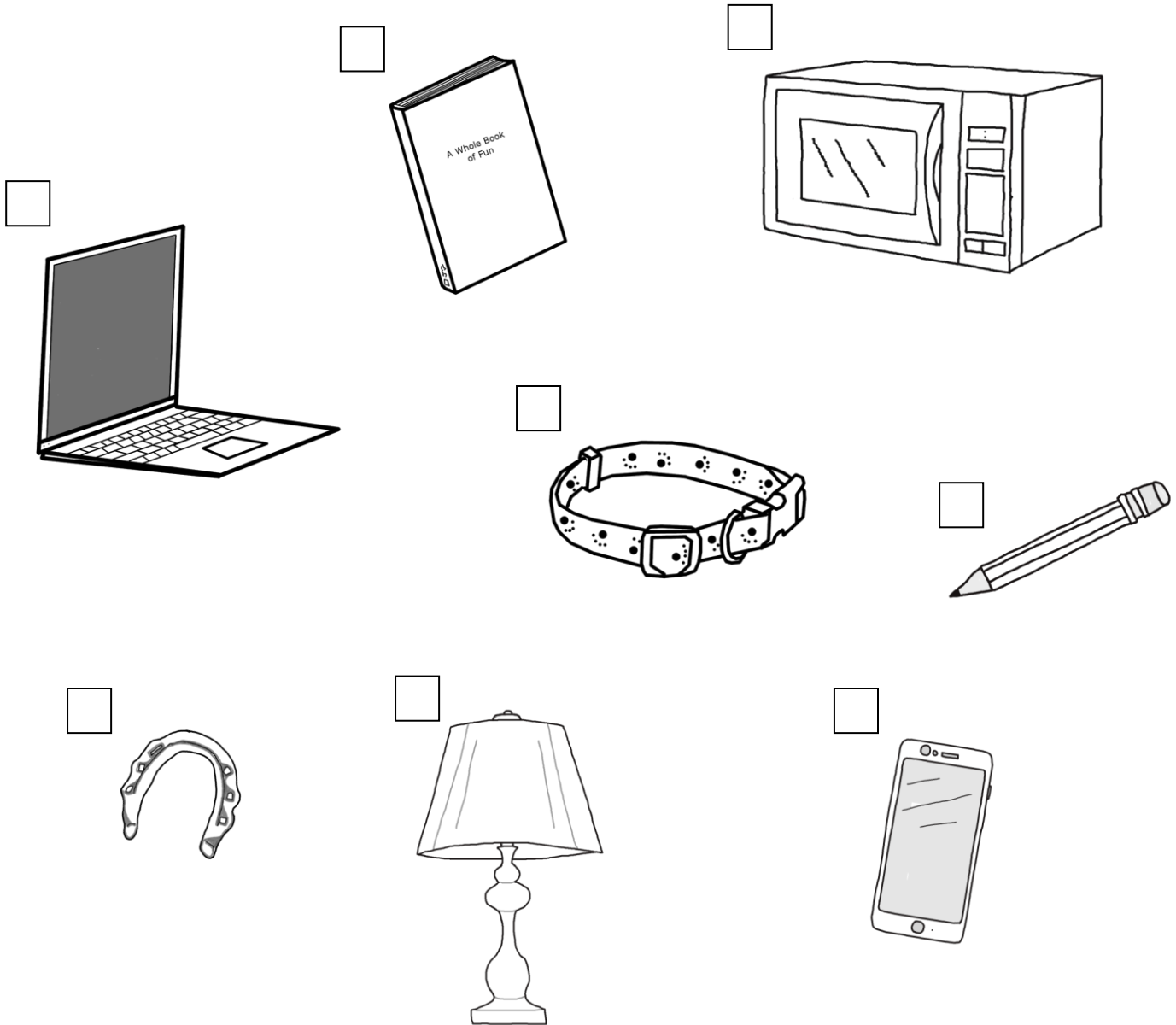
Z	X	W	B	E	A	D	S	Y	N
K	T	I	N	C	A	N	J	A	T
U	R	W	X	V	R	S	Q	R	P
G	X	C	P	O	T	T	E	R	Y
L	V	U	T	L	I	B	O	O	P
A	Z	V	W	Q	F	O	P	W	X
S	H	E	R	D	A	T	V	H	M
S	D	Z	P	U	C	T	R	E	P
B	A	S	K	E	T	L	Y	A	N
D	Q	F	L	A	K	E	R	D	T

What are some objects that archaeologists might find?

- | | |
|------------|--------------|
| 1. Tin Can | 6. Glass |
| 2. Pottery | 7. Bottle |
| 3. Sherd | 8. Arrowhead |
| 4. Beads | 9. Artifact |
| 5. Basket | 10. Flake |

Discover Your Home

If an archaeologist studied your home in 100 years, what would they find? Check any of the objects that an archaeologist might find in your home.

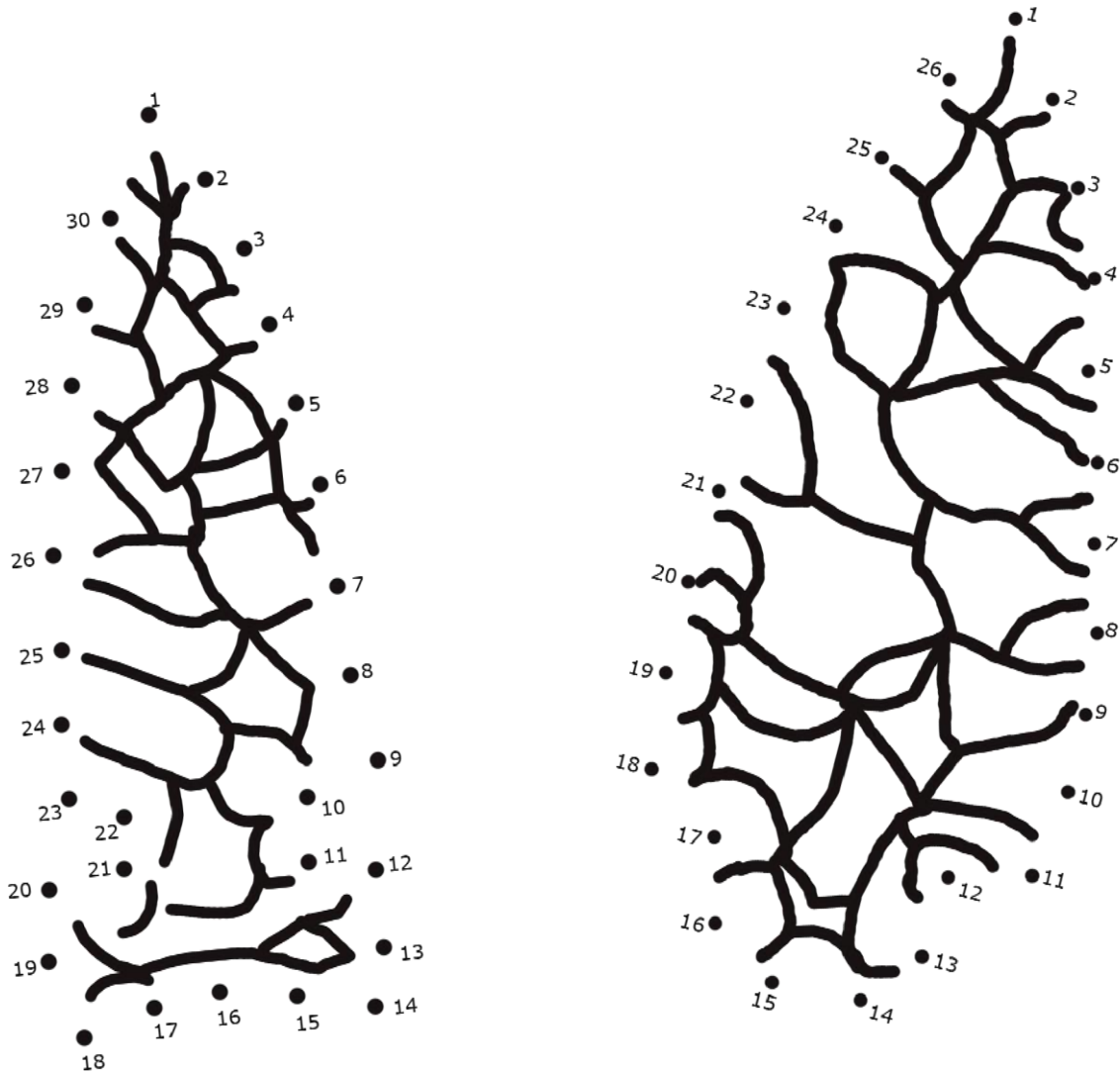


What would archaeologists learn about you through these objects?

Discover Stone Tools

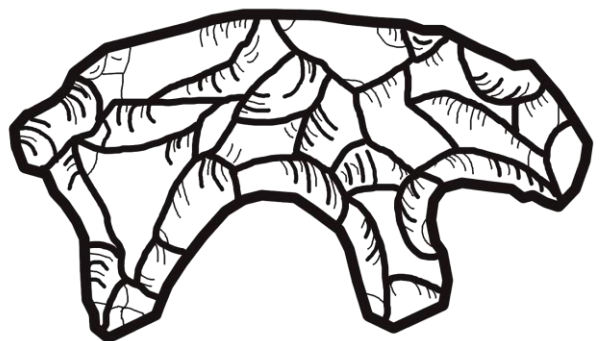
Humans have made many different kinds of stone tools by flint knapping. Flint knapping is the process of breaking down bigger rocks into stone tools, like arrowheads, spearheads, scrapers, and cutters. These tools come in many different shapes and sizes. The shape and size of stone tools can tell archaeologists about what they were used for, such as hunting or cutting, the age of the tool, and about the people who made the tools. The type of rock used can also tell archaeologists about trade for materials, like obsidian or flint.

Connect the dots to make your own stone tools:



Did you know?

People flint knapped more than just tools. The Official California State Prehistoric Artifact is a stone artifact interpreted to look like a bear. It was made by prehistoric Californian Native Americans around 7,000 to 8,000 years ago! [Learn more at CA.gov](https://www.ca.gov).

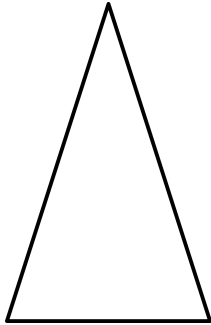


Created by E. Long 2021

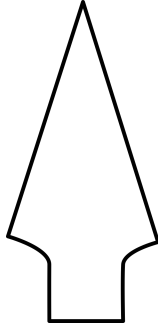
Discover Classification: Shapes

How do archaeologists classify stone tools? First, they look at shape. For points like arrowheads and spearheads, common shapes include triangular points, stemmed points, and notched points. Notched points can be corner or side notched. Putting tools into categories can help us understand differences in style and use.

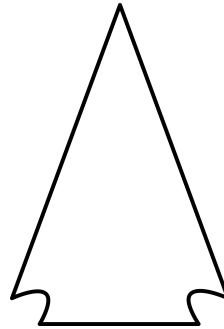
Notched Points



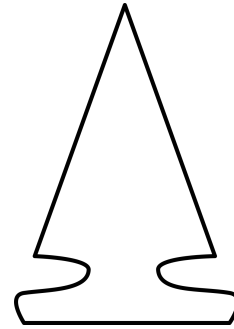
Triangular Point



Stemmed Point

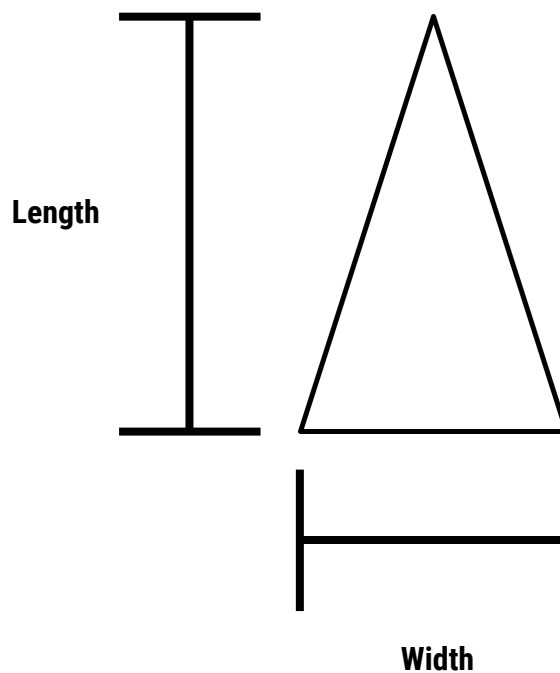


Corner Notched



Side Notched

Second, archaeologists look at size. Common measurements include overall length and overall width.



You can test your classification skills with stone tools on the following pages with digital 3D models of real artifacts.

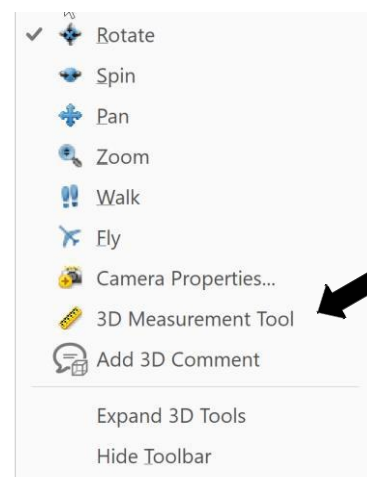
Discover Classification: Measurements

1. If you have not already, you will need to download the free [Adobe Acrobat Reader](#) to make this activity work. You will need to choose the option to “Trust This Document.”
2. On the next page, click on a box with an image of a stone point, and you can use your mouse to rotate it. You can observe the shape of the point.
3. Click on the point itself. A tool bar will appear, and you can select the triangle next to the sphere with the arrows.



4. Click on the 3D Measurement Tool. Now you can digitally measure the length and width of your 3D point model!
5. Now you can record the shape and measurements of each of the stone points. Note that model units are millimeters.

If you do not want to do this activity using the digital models, you can also print out the page and take measurements by hand, though the size of the printed page may not be accurate.



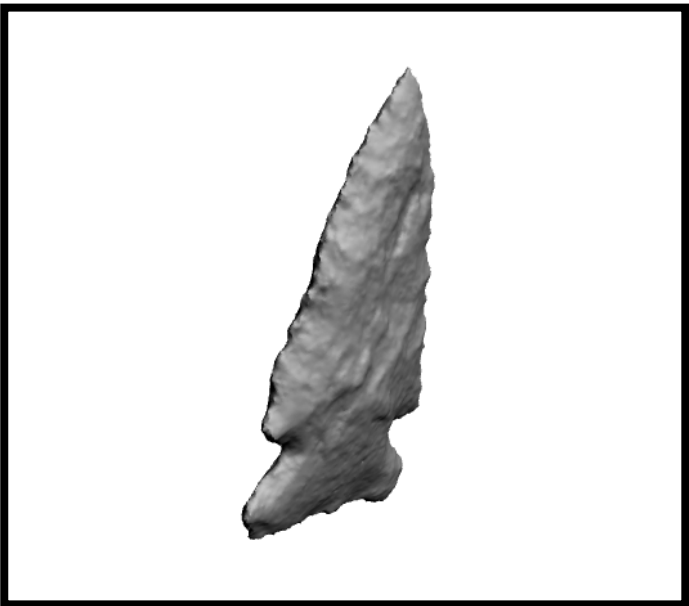
Classify the shape and record the measurements of the three artifacts on the next page. The models may take a moment to load.

Stone Point 1

Shape: _____

Length: _____ mm

Width: _____ mm

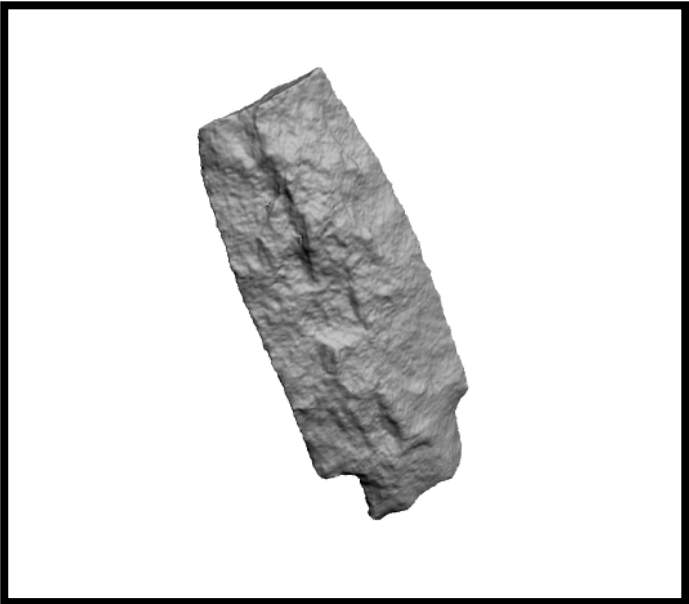


Stone Point 2

Shape: _____

Length: _____ mm

Width: _____ mm

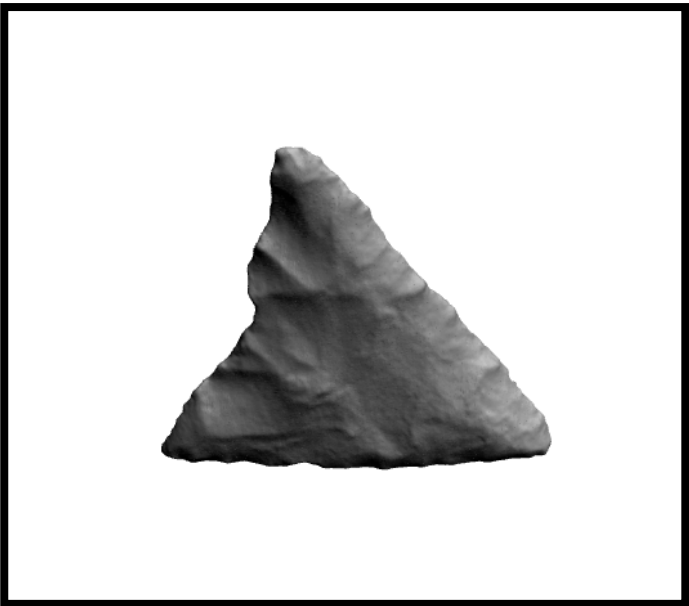


Stone Point 3

Shape: _____

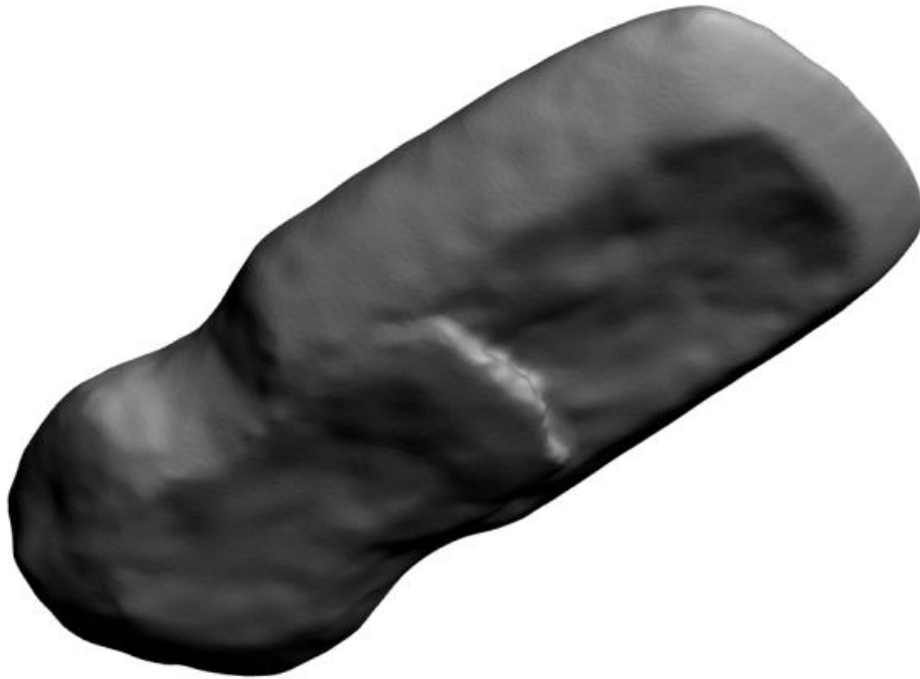
Length: _____ mm

Width: _____ mm



Discover Your Own Artifact Model

The groundstone axe below was found on Assateague Island National Seashore in Maryland. The last ten pages of this booklet can be cut out as plans to trace onto cardboard, which you can cut out and glue together to make a cardboard model of the axe. Make sure children get the help of an adult when cutting out the plans or cutting the cardboard. View the axe as a [digital 3D model on Sketchfab](#).



[Watch a quick animation](#) showing the process of gluing the cardboard model together.

Why do you think archaeologists might use models while studying an artifact?

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