A UNIQUELY ENGRAVED AUGLAIZE COUNTY PENDANT

by
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This pendant was found on the east side of the St. John’s River in Auglaize County, Ohio. It was originally collected by Ernie Good.

The pendant measures 4 3/4" long x 2" wide. It is copiously engraved on both of its faces, but I have chosen to highlight a very special piece of artwork on one side of the piece. The engraving itself is rather light, so I have included a scaled drawing of the prehistoric artwork. My interpretation of the drawing is that the artist is representing two bucks with antlers standing side by side near a body of water. The body of water has two stream flow directional arrows on it.

Zoomorphic representations engraved on slate objects are extremely rare, but this author is unaware of other engraved pieces that show a direction of water movement. Is it a map? What made the deer special? We will never know the answers to these questions, but they are fun to ponder. Further interpretations are welcomed by the author.

Figure 1 (Dickinson) Photograph and drawing of engraved pendant.