APRIL FOOL’S DAY FIND

by
Terry Randall
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I found this Dovetail on April 1, 1981 (April Fool’s Day) on my farm in northwest Knox County near Fredericktown. When I got off my tractor to close a gate I saw the tip sticking out of the ground. It was in perfect condition. The Dovetail measures 4 1/8 inches long and 1/2 inches wide. It is made of pink and white Flint Ridge flint.

Over the years of surface hunting this is the best Dovetail I have found. The field where it was discovered was a highly productive twelve acres but has now been converted to seventy acres. Because of this it is more difficult to find my way back to the place of the find.

Figure 1 (Randall) Knox County Dovetail

MINIATURE FLUTED POINT

by
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On Monday, May ninth, 2011 I was surface hunting along the Blanchard River in Putnam County, Ohio. I had hardly entered the field when I saw a small white point lying in plain sight on top of the ground. It did not appear to be anything unusual, except for the deep concave base. Since it was still covered with dirt I simply put it in my pocket and hunted for another hour or so.

When I arrived home and washed off my morning finds I was astonished to see an obvious flute on the face of the artifact. Basal grinding is apparent in the base, as well as along each edge for more than half its length. There appears to be evidence of resharpening or an attempt at salvage of a larger point. On page nine of Robert Converse’s book Ohio Flint Types a very similar example is shown (bottom row, fourth from the left) although the point I found is three sixteenth inches shorter. It is one and one quarter inches in length.

I have been hunting diligently for over fifty years and have a sizeable collection, but with the exception of two broken fragments this is my first Ohio fluted point.

Figure 1 (Harnishfeger) Miniature fluted point 1 1/4 inches long. Found in Putnam County, Ohio.