

Code sheet for Metal **Blades** Database, Ban Chiang Project

All measurements are in centimeters unless otherwise noted.

Serial_number = unique numerical designator for each artifact

Artifact_ID: excavation abbreviation followed by the small find number/bag number.

For example, BC 0603/0471 = Ban Chiang 1974 excavation; small find number=603; bag number = 471

Site = site where material was recovered

BAN CHIANG BC = 1974 excavation at Ban Chiang by Penn/Thai Fine Arts Department. Excavation abbreviation = BC.

BAN CHIANG BCES = 1975 excavation at Ban Chiang by Penn/Thai Fine Arts Department. Excavation abbreviation = BCES.

BAN PHAK TOP = 1975 excavation by Penn (William Schauffler). Excavation abbreviation = BPT.

BAN TONG = 1975 excavation by Penn (William Schauffler). Excavation abbreviation = BT.

DON KLANG = 1975 excavation by Penn (William Schauffler). Excavation abbreviation = DK.

Small_find_number = small find number assigned in the field or lab

Bag_number = artifact bag number assigned in the field

Artifact_class = small find class

BLADES: implements whose primary working areas are cutting edges along a longitudinal side parallel to the axis of the hafting element, if present. Cutting edges can be either straight or curved. **Hafting elements** include sockets and tangs but some blades lacking these elements may have been hafted to wood or bamboo along the longitudinal side opposite the working edge.

Material = the material of which the artifact is made

Cu-base = copper-base metal

Fe = iron

Bimetallic = copper-base metal and iron

Provenience

Period = regional period

LP-Protohistoric

LP = Late Period

MP-LP = Middle to Late Period

MP = Middle Period

EP-MP = Early to Middle Period

EP = Early Period

Subperiod = the division of the Early Period
upper
lower

Burial_phase = varies by site

Ban Chiang BC and Ban Chiang BCES

- X
- IX
- VIII
- VIIIb
- VIIa
- VI
- Vc
- Vb
- Va
- IVc
- IVb
- IVa
- IIIb
- IIIa
- Ic
- Ib
- Ia
- I

Ban Tong

- 2
- 1

Don Klang

- 4
- 3

Context = the kind of deposit from which the artifact was recovered during the excavation.

White defines four general categories of context for artifacts in the four sites: (1) deliberately placed in burials; artifacts are called grave goods; (2) near skeletons or in grave fill, but not necessarily grave goods; artifacts are called burial-associated materials; (3) in features of various sorts; and (4) in the general soil matrix.

- grave good
- burial-associated
- feature
- feature pdb = possible disturbed burial
- general soil matrix

Level = cultural level by excavation locale

BC	BCES	BPT	BT	DK
13	04D	12	09	05

12	04C	11	08B	04B
11	04B	10	08A	04A
10	04A	09	07B	03C
09	03I	08B	07A	03B
08	03H	08A	06	03A
07	03G	07	05	02/03
06	03F	06	04	02C
05	03E	05	03	02B
04	03D	04	03/02	02A
03	03C	03	02B	02/01
02	03B	02	02A	01C
01	03A	01	01	01B
	02H			01A
	02G			
	02F			
	02E			
	02D			
	02C			
	02B			
	02A			
	01A			

Square = excavation square

Quadrant = quadrant of excavation square (Sections are also noted in this field.)

Ban Chiang BC and BCES

- None
- ALL QUADS
- NEQ
- NEQ SEQ
- NEQ NWQ
- NWQ
- NWQ NEQ
- NWQ SWQ
- SEQ
- SEQ SWQ
- SWQ

Ban Phak Top

- None
- SWQ
- SEQ
- NWQ
- NEQ
- North section

Ban Tong

None
SWQ
SEQ
NWQ
NEQ SEQ
NEQ

Don Klang

WQ
SQ WQ
NQ SQ EQ
NQ EQ
NQ
EQ

Layer = excavation layer

Burial_number = site/locale followed by assigned burial number

Burial_association = vertical relationship of grave good to skeleton

Unclear
Beside skeleton
Beneath skeleton
Above skeleton
Worn by deceased
Found mixed with bones

Location = horizontal relationship of grave good to skeleton

Left
Right
Center
Beyond head
Beyond feet

Body_part = the part of the body upon which or near which the artifact was found

Feature_number = feature number, assigned in the field

Feature_type = feature type/description

cache
cache of mixed objects
cache—pot

clump
clump of shell
mixed artifact clump

clusters

- cluster of animal bone
- cluster of miscellaneous human bone
- mixed artifact cluster (with crucible)
- sherd cluster

- discrete finds
 - discrete human bone
 - discrete small find
 - laterite lump
 - stone

- disturbance
 - disturbance—mixed
 - insect disturbance

- ditch

- hearth

- pits
 - large pit
 - medium pit
 - small pit

- possible disturbed burial

- post hole

- scatters
 - scatter of mixed objects
 - scatter of sherds and bone

- soil
 - sediment feature
 - soil feature

Artifact Status

Completeness = how much of the artifact is present

- unknown
- intact
- whole, reconstructed
- greater than half
- less than half
- fragmentary
- unclear

Corrosion_level = degree of corrosion; assessment was initially made in the late 1970s and was partially updated in 2001. Left blank if no information was available.

not applicable

cannot tell

no metal present = appears to be completely corroded

may be metal present = corroded but there is reason to believe that some metal may be present

metal present

Conserved = whether the artifact in 1978 was assessed and conserved by Tamsen Fuller, a Museum conservator

yes

no

Lab_number = lab number assigned by conservator

Sampled = whether the artifact was sampled or examined metallographically

blank = not sampled

sampled = sample was cut but not examined, usually because sample was completely corroded

metallography = cut, mounted, and examined metallographically. Elemental and microhardness tests may also have been performed

Elemental = whether an elemental analysis was performed on the artifact

yes

blank = no

Hardness = the Vickers microhardness results for five tests. Only the range of results for each artifact is presented here. More details are in the separate Hardness Ranges database. If no hardness test was performed then the space is blank.

Artifact Description

Type = variations are defined based on the shape of the edge, shape of the overall object, and the presence, position, and shape of the hafting element. Blade fragments are divided into four types: **lunate**, **curved**, **straight**, and **unclassified** (see attached blade classification diagram).

Number_of_pieces = the number of pieces that comprised the artifact in the 1970s, at first recording

Weight_gm = total weight of piece or pieces in grams. Measurement was made in the late 1970s before analysis.

Maximum_dimension = maximum dimension of object in centimeters. If there is more than one piece then the largest piece is measured.

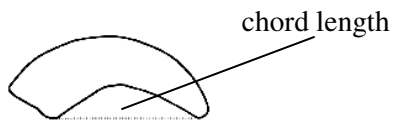
Intact_length = original length overall of intact objects, recorded in the late 1970s

Original_width = original width overall of intact objects, recorded in the late 1970s

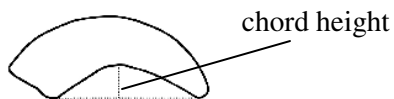
Inner_radius = minimum radius of curvature of inside edge, recorded in the late 1970s. This minimum radius is the result of measuring the curve of the blade against the lines of a pot rim chart, included here.

Inner_length = original length of inside edge, recorded in the late 1970s

Chord_length = original chord length (distance between a line drawn from one corner of inside edge to the other), recorded in the late 1970s



Chord_height = original chord height (distance from chord to inside edge of blade) of inside edge, recorded in the late 1970s



Outer_length = original length of outside edge, recorded in the late 1970s

Blade_length = maximum length of blade, recorded in the late 1970s

Maximum_blade_width = maximum width of blade, recorded in the late 1970s

Average_blade_width = average width of blade, recorded in the late 1970s

Blade_thickness = maximum thickness of blade, recorded in the late 1970s. Not recorded when blade is badly corroded.

Curved_blade_shape = shape of curved blade, recorded in the 1970s. See blade classification diagrams.

unknown (cannot determine)

claw-shaped

slight curve

blade forms a right angle

smoothly curved sickle-like blade, with a very slight angle between blade and hilt.

Unclassified_blade_shape = shape of unclassified blade, recorded in the 1970s (See blade classification diagram.)

unknown (cannot determine)

triangle—rounded tip

triangle—pointed tip

long triangle

Hafting_type

tanged

not tanged (e.g., lunate)

socketed

unknown (cannot determine)

Tang

unknown (cannot determine)

present and intact

partly broken or damaged

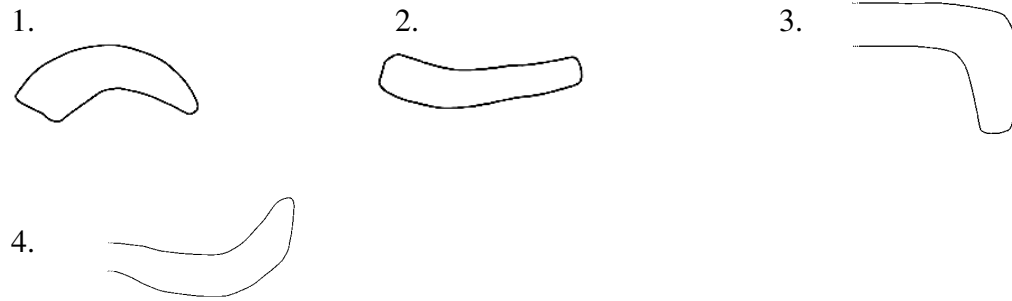
entirely or almost entirely broken off

never present

Comments

Blade classification chart: blade types (**Type**) and blade shapes (**Curved_blade_shape** and **Unclassified_blade_shape**)

Curved blades



Lunate blades



Straight blades



Unclassified blades

