A000-Am,C-Taino-Tripointer-Conoid Projection-Exposed ribs-Porphyritic Andesite-1000 CE



Figs. 1-4. Am,C-Taino-Tripointer-Conoid Projection-Exposed ribs-Porphyritic Andesite-1000 CE

Three-pointed Stone, Fewkes Type 1, rare type, anterior and posterior anthropomorphic limbs with rudimentary feet.

**Case No.: 17**

**Accession No.**

**Formal Label:** Am,C-Taino-Tripointer-Conoid Projection-Exposed ribs-Porphyritic Andesite-1000 CE

**Display Description:**

The classification of this type **“head on anterior and legs on posterior projection”** is based mainly on the anterior depiction of an anthropomorphic head. The axis of the base is sometimes skewed to the left or right, suggesting that the sculptor intended to indicate left or right-handedness. A generally smooth surface may be marked by incised or ground lines suggesting anatomical features, and ground cupules usually indicate anatomical joints and the spine. In rare instances anterior as well as posterior limbs are indicated (Fewkes 1907: 111).

The axis of the body is skewed to the left. Jesse Walter Fewkes has speculated that a left-leaning bias on these stones may imply an attempt to distinguish left-handedness. Cupules are placed at critical points. The pointed protuberance on the sculpture of Fig. 4a is topped by a cupule. This protuberance has been likened to a volcanic cone as a symbol of the sacred origin of the Taino from their volcanic island home. Seven cupules mark the spinal column. The euphoria that ascends the spine after having inhaled the cohoba hallucinogen could be interpreted as ascending the spine. Cupules are placed at the top of the forearms, at the top of the rib cage and on the buttocks. The figure wears a special conical, ribbed cap on its forehead, with a cupule on its front and top. Such caps are found on other figures that suggest they are shamanic emblems. A final cupule is located just behind the cap, perhaps signifying the omniscience of the volcanic spirit.

The ribs of the anthropomorphic figure are clearly shown suggestive of fasting, which, when combined with the enlarged eyes and the rudimentary lower appendages, suggest a sedentary individual in a meditative posture.

**LC Classification: F1909**

**Date or Time Horizon: 1000 CE**

**Geographical Area: Caribbean**

**Map:**

**GPS coordinates:**

**Cultural Affiliation:**

**Media:**

**Dimensions:**

**Weight:**

**Condition:**

**Provenance:**

**Discussion:**

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