How do you know that?
Archaeological Research Methods

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1. How old is it?
2. Where did it come from?
3. Is it changing?

As always, thanks to my students:

Since 2002 have recorded:
Over 40,000 artifacts at nearly 200 previously unrecorded archaeological sites

Survey
In-field analysis, non-collection
How old is it?

Stratigraphy

Cross-dating

Paleoindian: before 8000
Early Archaic: 5000-8000
Middle Archaic: 3000-5000
Late Archaic: 1500-3000

Late Prehistoric: 200-1500

Radiocarbon dating

1550 ± 90

1100 ± 60

www.greyhall.org
Where did it come from?

X-Ray Florescence (XRF)
Non-destructive
52 Samples in 2004
75 more submitted from 2005

Obsidian Source
- Bear Guich
- Wildhorse Canyon
- Obsidian Cliff, WY
- Pahaoah Creek, ID
- Valuta, NV
- Wildhorse Canyon, UT
- Nevada, CA
- Idaho, ID
- Montana, MT
- Wyoming, WY
- Utah, UT
- Colorado, CO

Obsidian Cliff
N = 42
79.2%

Obsidian Cliff
Bear Guich
Wildhorse Canyon

GREYBULL OBSIDIAN SAMPLES 2004

1888

Today

OBSIDIAN CLIFF
Before 5000

Is it changing, is it being lost?

GPS Mapping

INDIVIDUAL ARTIFACT LOCATIONS

MULTIPLE SCALES

Static GPS
Location, Description, photos, molds

Survey - discovery

Mapping - Documentation
Re-survey: monitoring artifact locations

Has the site been damaged since it was first recorded?

Inventory and monitoring archaeological sites is like any other type of resource monitoring...

Thank you.