Databases

Paleoindian Database of the Americas:
2005 Status Report

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Locational and attribute data on Paleoindian materials from all across the Americas are now being posted on a Web site located at http://pidba.utk.edu. We encourage our colleagues to contribute to this effort by submitting information they would like to see posted in hardcopy or electronic form. All data and contributors will be fully referenced and acknowledged.

At present distributional data on ca. 20,000 Paleoindian projectile points from Canada, the United States, and Mexico are posted, together with measurement data for several thousand Paleoindian tools, mostly fluted or unfluted projectile points, blades, and other tool types. In addition to attribute and distributional data, the Web site also includes links to drawings, photographs, $^{14}$C dates, bibliographic references, and other Paleoindian Web sites.

The Paleoindian Database of the Americas (PIDBA) Web site is a work in progress that we plan to markedly expand. We have the resources to enter data from hardcopy records, and are doing that with recording forms from several fluted point surveys at present, and from published sources as we find the references. We can translate most data formats or work from hardcopy records. Check the Web site for details on how to submit information, or send material to us at the address listed at the end of this paper.

PIDBA represents a marked expansion of our earlier efforts, which focused on materials from North America, specifically summary data on the occurrence of Paleoindian projectile points by state and county within the United States (Anderson 1990; Anderson and Faught 1998, 2000; Faught et al. 1994). Exploring the early occupation of our hemisphere requires a perspective that transcends individual countries. The Web site can accommodate data from every country in North, Central, and South America, and is designed to truly encompass the Americas.

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Database development represents a cooperative effort among many people, and we thank all those who have participated to date. We welcome and encourage data contributions, as well as references to published information and relevant Web sites. We are particularly looking for colleagues in Latin America to help to develop mirror sites in languages other than English. Finally, we encourage colleagues to start compiling data in those areas where recording projects have not been initiated.

Send information to David G. Anderson electronically at dander19@utk.edu or mail hardcopy data to Anderson, Department of Anthropology, The University of Tennessee, 250 South Stadium Hall, Knoxville, TN 37996-0720.

References Cited


