Dalton and San Patrice represent two point types that evolved from earlier fluted points described in the previous issue of the MAS Quarterly (23[4]:6–7). At the Big Eddy site, both were found in contemporaneous deposits, and so they are described together here. The Dalton point is named after the Dalton-type site near the mouth of the Osage River, whereas the San Patrice point is named after sites found along San Patrice Creek in northwestern Louisiana.

Far less is known about San Patrice than about Dalton, and at least one variety of the San Patrice type, referred to as St. Johns, can be easily misidentified if one does not pay attention to key technological characteristics. This is because the St. Johns variety is corner notched and it appears similar to other later corner-notched points. It is also noted that San Patrice points are relatively small in comparison to Dalton points. Unlike Dalton points, which appear to have served both as a projectile and a knife, the more diminutive San Patrice points likely served mainly as dart points.

### Technological Characteristics

**Dalton:** Unresharpened Dalton points (Figure 1) and those exhibiting limited re-sharpening (Figure 2a-b) are long and lanceolate in form. Dalton points that have been resharpenned repeatedly exhibit a distinct blade-stem juncture where a beveled and/or serrated blade meets a ground stem (Figure 2c-d). Beveling is predominantly on the right side. The sides of thehaft area are smoothed by grinding and may be slightly incurvate (Figure 2c). The haft area usually exhibits multiple basal thinning scars, although some early Dalton points were fluted. Intentional heat treatment was not part of the manufacturing technology for Dalton points.

**San Patrice:** In Missouri, this point type is represented by at least two varieties referred to as Hope and St. Johns, although several other varieties and names exist for similar forms (e.g., Rodgers Side-Hollowed) elsewhere. Both varieties known from Missouri are relatively thin and they almost always exhibit flute scars on one or both faces. The Hope variety (Figure 3a-b) exhibits faint rounded shoulders, out-turned ears, a deeply concave base, and broad but shallow basal flutes (Ray 1998:167). The St. Johns variety (Figure 3c-e) is similar to the Hope variety except that it has shallow corner notches near the base, short barbs, and a slightly concave base (Ray 1998:167). Grinding of the bases of both varieties is typically moderate to light, and points of both varieties are thin in cross section. Intentional heat treatment also was not part of the manufacturing technology for San Patrice points.

### Age

Although Chapman (1975:245) delineated a transitional Dalton time period between Late Paleoindian and Early Archaic, and some archaeologists now assign Dalton points to the Early Archaic period, most archaeologists consider them as Late Paleoindian. Historically, most radiocarbon ages for Dalton have been rejected by archaeologists as being too young and/or from mixed contexts (e.g., at Graham Cave and Arnold Research Cave in Missouri; see O’Brien and Wood 1998:76). However, two dates from Rodgers Shelter in the Pomme de Terre valley and multiple radiocarbon ages from Big Eddy in the neighboring Sac River valley indicate a time span for Dalton of about 10,500 to 9,800 radiocarbon years before present, or roughly 12,500 to 11,100 calendar years ago (note: due to fluctuations in the amount of carbon-14 in the atmosphere, the span of radiocarbon years for this time span is much collapsed in comparison to the actual number of calendar years). At Big Eddy, both varieties of San Patrice also were found in the same horizon as Dalton points and are considered to date to the same time span. The earlier portion of the age spans for Dalton and San Patrice overlap with the time span for Folsom to the west.

### Distribution

**Dalton:** Dalton points have been recorded for all 114 counties in Missouri
(O’Brien and Wood 1998:73). They, or similar forms (e.g., Hardaway-Dalton), are distributed throughout most of the southeastern United States and the Midwest. They are also distributed westward into the central Plains states, although their abundance falls off greatly to the west of Missouri and more broadly the edge of the Eastern Woodlands. In the heartland, of which Missouri was a part, the abundance of Dalton points, compared to earlier fluted points, is suggestive of a substantial increase in population.

**San Patrice:** The heartland for San Patrice is to the south in an area referred to as the Gulf Coastal Plain. However, San Patrice points have been found from Alabama to central Texas, and then northward from Louisiana through Arkansas to southern Missouri. In the southern part of Missouri, San Patrice points appear to be rare, although closer study of collections in the future will benefit a much better perspective on their numbers and distribution.

### References

Chapman, Carl H.

O’Brien, Michael J., and W. Raymond Wood

Ray, Jack H.

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**Figure 2.** Dalton points. (a-c) from 23CE426; (d) from 23TA403.

**Figure 3.** San Patrice points. (a-b) Hope variety, from 23CE426 and 23TA566; (c-d) St. Johns variety, from 23CE426; (e) St. Johns variety, from 23CN57.