Fig. 1 (left): Face view. (right): Side view. PHOTO: © 2020 Norm Frisch

Artifact 20-01

Specifications:

Material: Soapstone? and round metal wire.
Slab length = 19.37 cm (7 5/8 in), width at holes = 14.92 cm (5 7/8 in),
thickness = 23.81 mm (15/16 in).
Overall length with wire = 24.92 cm (9 13/16 in),
overall width of wire = 17.94 cm (7 1/16 in).
Hole diameter = 6.35 mm (1/4 in). Wire diameter = 3.97 mm (5/32 in)
Weight = 2.118 kg (4.67 lb)

continued...

WHAT'S IT?

Artifact 20-01

Clues / Questions:

This is an artifact that your tactile sense, touch, may come in very handy! As you examine the object with your hands, what do you notice about the feel? This stone artifact has a quality that most stones do not have and this quality is what made—and makes—it useful. Notice I used the present tense, "makes it useful". Even though this artifact is considered an antique, there are companies that recently started making these again because of the special quality of this stone. It is a hot new item for distributors like Amazon—and you have just been given a clue! When this stone is crushed, it has another entirely different use. Most children have had this crushed stone on their bodies at sometime in their early life. You have probably had this on your own body! So your two clues are; it's a hot new product on Amazon, and in crushed form, this stone has been on nearly everyone's body—happy guessing!

THE MYSTERY OF HISTORY — FEBRUARY 3, 2020
WHAT'S IT?

HOW THIS WORKS:

Every so often an artifact will be on display in the Seymour Library near the information desk and also be posted simultaneously on the Museum website. Seeing the artifact in person at the Library is best because there it can be viewed from different angles and distances (touching the artifact is not allowed).

YOUR GUESS?

Prediction cards can be found near the exhibit display at the Seymour Library and on this page. Fill either card out and return it to "Ye Olde Prediction Box" near the exhibit display.

ELIGIBILITY

Open to everyone.

DEADLINE

All entires must be received by: **Monday, March 23, 2020**

ANSWERS

Answers will be available near the exhibit display at the Seymour Library and published on the museum website around **April 6, 2020** when the next artifact will go on display.

PRIZES

There are NO prizes, but winning entrants names will be posted. (unless you indicate otherwise on the prediction card).

PREDICTION CARD

THE MYSTERY OF HISTORY
WHAT'S IT?

Name (please print) : _____ Date: _____

Contact info (voluntary) : _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Artifact Number: _____ What do you think this object might be, and how would it be used?

_____

_____

_____

Continue on back of card, if necessary.

S·E·Y·M·O·U·R L·I·B·R·A·R·Y BROCKPORT · CLARKSON · SWEDEN

Scan the QR code for more details!

Brockport Community MUSEUM
A MUSEUM WITHOUT WALLS
Visit us at http://brockportcommunitymuseum.org

A collaboration of the Brockport Community Museum, Seymour Library and the Brockport Central School District.

THE MYSTERY OF HISTORY — FEBRUARY 3, 2020

WHAT'S IT?

BACKGROUND

"WHAT'S IT?" has been a feature of the BCM website since its inception in 2007. In 2017 Brockport Community Museum board member Archer "Buck" Noble, a Brockport Central School District teacher (now retired) developed "The Mystery of History" school project that encouraged fourth and fifth grade students to use observational and investigative techniques to help determine the type and use of different historic artifacts.

That project was introduced to the general public during a Brockport Community Museum outreach presence at the 2017 Brockport Sidewalk Sale. That success led to this collaboration between the Brockport Community Museum, Seymour Library and Brockport Central School District.

GET INVOLVED

– **Take your best guess** regarding the current artifact.
– **Do you have an artifact** you would like to know more about? Open your query to a larger audience.
– **Have a suggestion** about how we can improve this project?

If so...
Leave your contact information in "Ye old prediction box"
near the exhibit display.

CREDITS

Museum project committee
Archer "Buck" Noble
Norman Frisch

Seymour Library
Mike Boedicker, Director