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An Energy-Dispersive X-Ray Fluorescence Analysis of Obsidian Artifacts from AZ V:1:150 and 166 (ASM), Central Arizona

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GEOARCHAEOLOGICAL XRF LAB

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LETTER REPORT

AN ENERGY-DISPERSIVE X-RAY FLUORESCENCE ANALYSIS OF OBSIDIAN ARTIFACTS FROM AZ V:1:150 AND 166 (ASM), CENTRAL ARIZONA

2 November 2011

Richard Lange Arizona State Museum University of Arizona Tucson, AZ 85721

Dear Richard,

The two artifacts submitted by Arizona State Museum were produced from Cow Canyon and Government Mountain obsidian. All analyses for this study were conducted on a ThermoScientific Quant'X XRF spectrometer at at the Archaeological XRF Laboratory, Albuquerque, New Mexico. Specific instrumental methods can be found at http://www.swxrflab.net/anlysis.htm, and Shackley (2005). Source assignment was made by comparison to source standard data in the Archaeological XRF Laboratory. Analysis of the USGS RGM-1 standard indicates high machine precision for the elements of interest (USGS; Table 1 here).

Sincerely,

M. Steven Shackley, Ph.D. Director

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http://www.swxrflab.net/

REFERENCE CITED

Shackley, M.S.

2005 Obsidian: Geology and Archaeology in the North American Southwest. University of Arizona Press, Tucson.

Table 1. Elemental concentrations for the archaeological samples. All measurements in parts per million (ppm).

Sample	Ti	Mn	Fe	Rb	Sr	Υ	Zr	Nb	Ва	Pb	Th	Source
V:1:150 IN169 I- 15	134 3	451	9683	140	131	18	123	18	137 3	22	10	Cow Canyon
V:1:166 IN225 I- 37	794	468	9399	104	81	21	78	54	425	30	11	Government Mtn
RGM1-S4	165 7	294	1328 2	147	109	25	221	13	905	20	17	standard