

Artifact of the Month

Tribal Historic Preservation Office

January 2022



Today's archaeological standards gives the guideline that anything 50 years or older can be deemed archaeological/historic and anything under 50 years to be modern. Our in house archaeology team uses this threshold while out in field when they come across glass bottles found the ground surface. They can determine the date of the glass in several different ways but the two easiest are finding the date code on the bottom of the bottle or looking for the phrase "To be recycled" or the commonly known symbol for recycling. Before 2020, if the archaeology team saw the recycle symbol on the bottles they would know to leave it in place, as it would still be considered modern, but now, things are changing. A perfect example of which is this month's featured artifact.

With the emergence of the 1970s came the recycle movement and the addition of the commonly used recycle symbol either embossed within the glass or printed on the labels of glass bottles ranging from fruit jars to soda pop. Unfortunately, this now causes an influx of glass bottles being turned in by the archaeology team because the 1970s (depending on the year) was over 50 years ago. So our original threshold, the one that kept out the massively reproduced Pepsi-Cola bottles we see everywhere today, is getting surpassed. And we can see that even with this 1970s Anchor Hocking *Yoohoo* bottle.

This *Yoohoo* bottle, while difficult to identify because the embossing isn't clear doesn't seem to have a recycle symbol but the Anchor Hocking symbol on the base firmly puts it within the 1970s.



Above/Right:
THPO 2017.12.6
Below: Original label

