

THE FIRST GEORGIA-AREA TEKTITE FOUND IN SOUTH CAROLINA H. Povenmire¹ Florida Institute of Technology, 215 Osage Drive, Indian Harbour Beach, FL 32937
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Tektites have been found in approximately 24 counties in the coastal plains of south central Georgia. They appear to be eroding out of the boundary between the Piedmont Plateau and the Georgia coastal plains on a line running from Augusta, Georgia to near Dothan, Alabama. Tektites have been found up to the Savannah River in Richmond County, Georgia. In spite of the extensive fieldwork, none have been found in South Carolina. This changed on May 8, 2010 when veteran Indian artifact hunter, Joel Lambert brought in a specimen found in the winter of 1964, but it was not previously identified as a tektite. This tektite was found near long. $81^{\circ} 45' W.$, lat. $33^{\circ} 38' N.$ which is in Aiken County, South Carolina. The soil is the typical slightly orange, reworked Tobacco Road Sands and reworked Altamaha sands with plinthite and some white quartz pebbles.

This tektite has the typical drab olive green color with no bubbles or inclusions. The shape is a classical teardrop with a flattened thin tail. It is a specimen with no nicks or abrasions from farm implements and the dimensions are $56 \times 32 \times 26$ mm and has a weight of 20.9 gms. This tektite is the most northern and most eastern find of the Georgia area strewn field and extends the length of the strewn field by approximately 40 km to the north east.

Approximately 2,600 Georgia tektites have been found up to 2010. This tektite increases the known area of the Georgia strewn field to approximately 10,000 square miles and this is approximately 20% larger than the Texas Bediasite strewn field.

The accepted age of the Georgia and Texas tektites by the $40/39\text{Ar}$ dating method is now 35.5 m.y.

Recently a second spectacular tektite was recovered from north eastern Wilcox County, Georgia, it weighed 28.8 gm. and was the third specimen found in this county since 2008.

Acknowledgements: Thanks is given to John Arena, John Whatley, and Robert Strange for their help in authenticating this new tektite.

References: [1] Povenmire, H. (2003) Tektites: A Cosmic Enigma, Blue Note Publishing, Cocoa, FL [2] Povenmire, H. A Tektite From Richmond County, Georgia *Lunar and Planetary Science Conference XXXI*, Abstract #1187.