

Manos

Groundstone tools made by grinding, battering, and pecking have been found in all parts of the Graham-Applegate site. These include granite manos (hand stones) and sandstone metates (slabs with shallow depressions to hold the food) fragments. Prehistoric peoples processed tough seeds with hulls and nuts into a usable food by placing them in the shallow depression on a metate and then rubbing them back and forth repeatedly. They also used the mano to pound some foods. Once the food was ground into a coarse meal, like corn meal or flour, and it could then be mixed with fat or water and fried like pancakes.

Discuss the following questions in your group:

1. What modern invention has taken the place of a mano?
2. Which one do you think works better: a mano or the modern invention? Explain your answer.