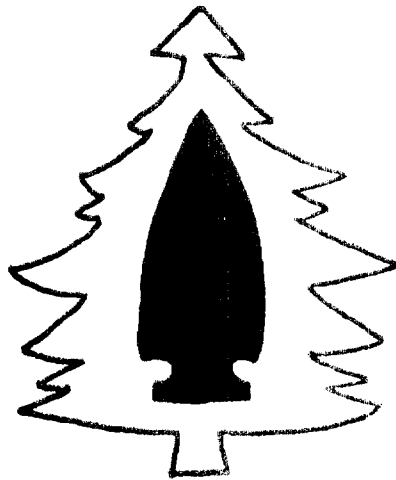


# MAINE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY



**BULLETIN 4**

**OCT. 1965**

**PUBLISHED BY THE MAINE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**  
SOCIETY OFFICE                      WILSON MUSEUM                      CASTINE, MAINE

I M P O R T A N T

ANNUAL FALL MEETING MAINE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, YOUR  
EDUCATION TAX EXEMPT ORGANIZATION

TIME: 1:30 P.M., SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1965

PLACE: CENTRAL MAINE SERVICE CENTER BUILDING,  
MEADOW ROAD (OFF WESTERN AVENUE) TURN  
RIGHT GOING WEST, TURN LEFT GOING EAST  
(OPPOSITE DAMON'S STORE)

OF GREAT INTEREST WILL BE THE FIRST OFFICIAL  
PRESENTATION OF THE PEMAQUID EXCAVATIONS BY MEMBER  
DIRECTOR HELEN CAMP AND MILLARD F. CAMP. OF ROUND  
POND (ILLUSTRATED) THIS EXCAVATION AROUSED NATION WIDE  
INTEREST.

MEMBERS WILL EXHIBIT INTERESTING FINDS OF THE  
PAST SEASON, FROM MANY PARTS OF THE STATE.

AT THIS NEW MEETING PLACE THERE IS ROOM FOR ALL  
WHO ATTEND AND TABLES TO MAKE YOUR DISPLAY

YOUR INTERESTING FINDS WILL BE ENJOYED BY OTHER  
MEMBERS.

FEEL PROUD OF YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN THIS, YOUR FAST  
GROWING EDUCATIONAL AND HISTORICAL GROUP AND PLAN TO  
BE WITH US.

OVER 900 MEMBERS IN 25 STATES AND CANADA.

IF YOU COME ANY DISTANCE LUNCH CAN BE SECURED  
AT HOWARD JOHNSON'S, A&W, HOLIDAY INN, SEMTOR MOTEL  
ALL WITHIN A MILE OF EACH OTHER ON WESTERN AVENUE.

GROUPS ARE ACTIVE AT OGUNQUIT, BOOTHBAY HARBOR,  
BRISTOL, CASTINE, SWANS ISLAND, GARDINER, AUGUSTA,  
WATERVILLE AND WE LOOK FOR WINTER ACTIVITY IN THE  
OLD TOWN AND MILLINOCKET AREAS.

LEND ENTHUSIASM BY ATTENDING.

BRING YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

THE PEMAQUID DIG 2268

A Preliminary Report

by

Arthur H. Young

On May 15, 1965 the Bristol Chapter began excavations on the Pemaquid Peninsula, near the site of the state-owned Fort William Henry Memorial, and on property owned by Mr. Gordon VanBuskirk of Bristol. In the fall of 1964 the land had been plowed, revealing a number of large and curious indentations. Helen Camp became interested, remembering having read in J.H. Cartland's "Twenty Years at Pemaquid" that 300 foundations had in the first decade of the century been counted at Pemaquid. She secured the permission of the owner to explore the field.

Excavations began in the largest of the indentations. Preliminary exploration of this first site partially unearthed the definite outlines of a foundation of piled stone, measuring 21' X 49'. Mortar used was local clay. A grid system was immediately set up and full-scale digging began. The first stones of the foundation were found 2 feet beneath the turf. Within its walls were recovered a large key, portions of wine glass, German Salt Glaze, native red pottery, one cannon ball, thick green bottle glass, a volume of handmade bricks, a few pipe stems, nails, window glass and portions of an iron pot, including a 5-sided kettle leg manufactured in Saugus, Mass. earlier than 1650. A small area, thought to be where the building's chimney once stood, was found along its northeast wall. The foundation had apparently been built during two periods; and research has led us to believe that the original building was the customs house under James, Duke of York, c. 1677.

Before work was completed at site 1, other diggers began exploring in a second indentation about 45' to the Northeast. Site two turned out to be a bonanza. A stone foundation in excellent condition was unearthed. Recovered from within its walls were numerous iron nails and spikes, fish hooks and spears, kettle hooks, round kettle legs, thimbles, scissors, a flatiron, bale seals, parts of wine bottles, musket and cannon balls, gunflints, a musket lock, door keys, Hibernian coins (1720's), German Salt Glaze, English Slip Ware, English Delft, German Bellarmine, native pottery, several unidentified pottery pieces, a large cache of pipe stems and bowls, two-tined forks, pewter spoon, knives, hinges, window glass, hundreds of animal bones and teeth, a branding iron and innumerable handmade bricks. The site measures 15'9" X 28'6". Our best guess is that this was the location of a tavern, inn or some type of public gathering place, because of the variety and large number of artifacts found here. We tentatively date this building at c. 1729.

Later exploration unearthed a stone and wooden drain extending from site 2 into site 1, leading us to believe that site 1 was not restored when Col. David Dunbar returned to rebuild Pemaquid in 1729.

Site 3, twelve feet northwest of the customs house and toward the shore, revealed foundation stones of much greater size. A natural ledge had been used as a foundation for one side of site

three, which measured approximately 20 feet square. Our speculation revolves around the theory that this site was used as a forge because of the quantities of iron-rich slag and burned earth in and around the foundation.

Approximately 50 ft. north of the forge, a fourth and deeper wall has emerged. Its dimensions measure 31' X 22'. A small section of the floor lies neatly paved with flat stones. In the north corner, a cache of 108 cannon balls was found. These were of three sizes--3, 6, and 9 pounds. With them was found the end of a bar shot. At this site the best preserved of the three drainage systems which we have unearthed was discovered, running from the foundation nearly to the sea, for a distance of about 30 ft. All four sides of this square drain are stone. Charred wood embedded in clay and many unidentifiable pieces of metal were taken from this site. Thick, crude, fire-burned pottery was also recovered from the site. A fort was built at the Pemaquid settlement in 1630, which was destroyed by Indians in 1676. This may have been its location.

An intriguing dual foundation was unearthed west of the customs house, nearer the harbor. It appears that one foundation, the larger, lies partially beneath a smaller one. In the lower enclosure, excavation has begun of a portion of what appears to be another drain of wooden construction. Further study of this unusual site will resume in the spring. In the upper foundation, pottery, nails, fire-burned glass and other metal objects were found.

Site six is located on the southern perimeter of the property, adjacent to the present road. Here we uncovered a small area some 8 X 10 feet, outlined by charred posts, beneath 5 feet of earth. The artifacts of significance found here were a handcuff and a nose auger. Adjacent to this are two small, well-constructed foundations, within one of which is a stone paved floor. Within their walls have been found crude heavy pottery, nails, pipe stems and an ornamental brick. The many bricks found in site six are larger than those discovered elsewhere. These areas are too recent for comment, but we wonder if they could represent a pillory and some small confinement cells.

Our discoveries have not been limited to the English Colony that obviously existed here. On August 20, two human burials were uncovered. The bones of one were too decomposed for removal separately. The first skeleton, however, was removed within a week after its discovery and transferred to the American Museum of Natural History in New York City, for complete analysis and reconstruction by Dr. Junius Bird and his staff.

Helen Camp's description of the burial accompanied the first skeleton to New York: "The skeleton was found about 3' under the present soil level. It was lying on its back in an east-west position (the head being in the west position). The cranium was turned at a right angle toward the north. The knees, as far as could be determined, were slightly flexed toward the north.

Under the head a pillow of dark earth had been formed, and a metal plate had been placed on this, so that the head rested on the metal plate.

Another metal plate on top of the skeleton extended from the shoulders to the groin, which plate was a little less than the width of the shoulders. There were four hollow metal tubes across what would be the breast portion at about the shoulder. These were not quite as wide as the metal plate covering the body. Over

the front metal plate was a heavy piece of hide or leather. On the hide there was a fibrous material which may have been the disintegrated hair of the hide, as it seemed to still have the black hair tip showing at the end away from the skin.

The bones under the metal were in a good state of preservation, but those not covered by the metal were partially disintegrated (some completely gone). There was a small (approximately 5" X 8") piece of leather underneath the metal shield on the left hand side of the skeleton, approximately 2/3 of the way down from the shoulders, under which were numerous small bones which we were unable to identify.

The shield on which the head rested seemed to be shorter than the one on the body. This was in many fragments.

The body from the shoulders down was resting on what appeared to be bark. A large size lock of black hair, tied with some sort of cording, was found under the armor about in the center of the breast. No artifacts were found in sifting the earth beneath and around the body.

A second skeleton, about 5' away from the one just described, was found in a position parallel to the first, but in a complete flexed position. What bones were left were in a mixed-up state, and some were completely disintegrated. The cranium was turned in the same direction as that of the first skeleton."

We make no claim to being professional archaeologists, but our methods have been those used by professionals as we understand them. Each site has been carefully laid out in grids and a complete record has been kept of all finds. Cataloguing will begin this winter. Earth by the tons, which was removed from within the foundations, has been sifted. The digging has been done with the use of shovels and picks for heavy moving, mason's trowels and whisk brooms for finer work and orange sticks and paint brushes for work on the skeletal material. Earth-moving machinery was used only to remove topsoil which had been disturbed year after year by the farmers' plows.

Research is being done in many areas, including the University of Pennsylvania, Worcester Antiquarian Society Library, MIT, Augusta State Library, Maine Historical Society Library in Portland and promising contacts have been made in England.

Our few months' work here at Pemaquid has received nationwide publicity. Newspaper, radio and television people from everywhere have interviewed us and photographed our work. Feature articles have appeared in many Maine newspapers, including The Lincoln County News, The Kennebec Journal, The Portland Sunday Telegram and Press Herald and The Lewiston Journal. Both "Yankee" and "Down East" magazines have accepted for publication articles about the Pemaquid Dig and the Society's work in general, written by one of our workers. In addition, our field director has appeared on the coast-to-coast radio program "Dimensions."

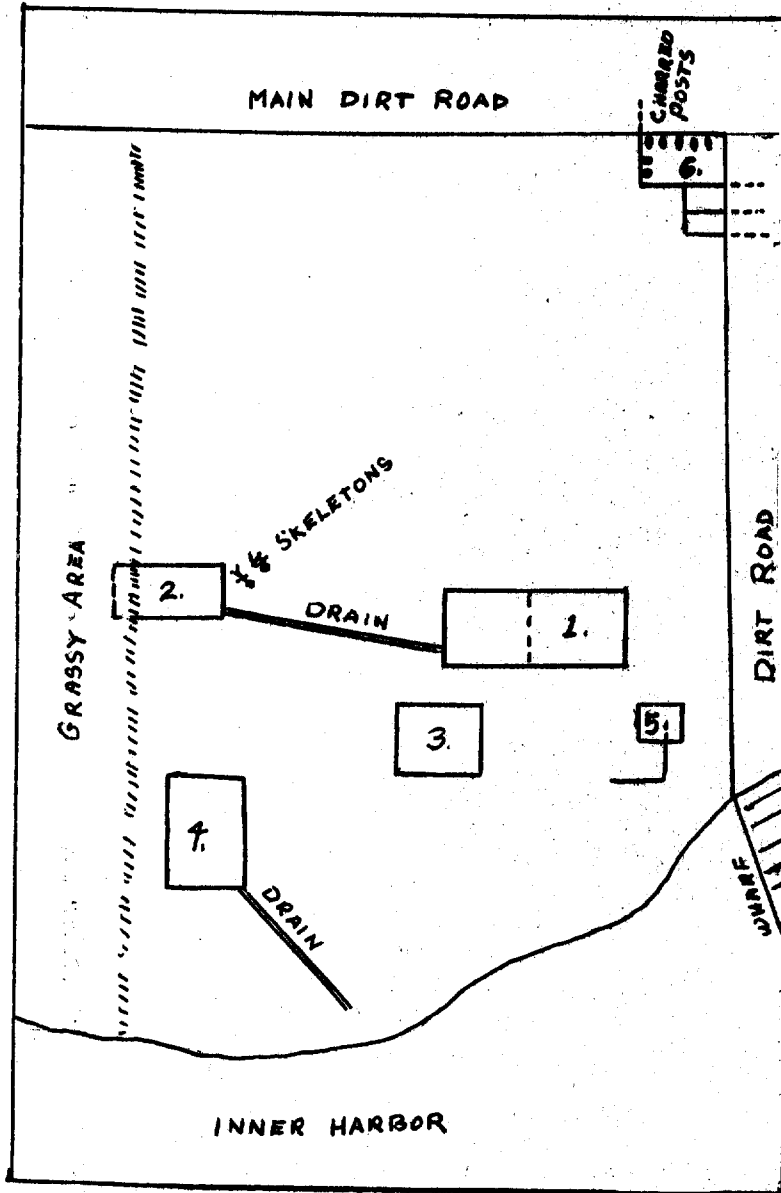
We have received excellent co-operation from almost everyone to whom we have turned for help and advice. Our volunteer "staff" includes a writer, a photographer, an artist, a talented lecturer and several persons whose combined knowledge and talents are most valuable to our purposes here. We feel that finally the time is right for as complete a recovery of the history of Colonial Pemaquid as will ever be possible.

And not enough praise can be given our dedicated workers.

We are indebted to hundreds of townspeople and visitors for their dedicated interest in our project. Special thanks to Roland Robbins, Dr. Richard Emerick and Dr. Junius Bird.

This is a preliminary report based upon our finds and experiences to date. Further reports will be made as excavation and research continues.

MAP SHOWING AREAS EXCAVATED



THE PEMAQUID DIG — — A PICTURE STORY



*Discovery of two skeletons. August 20, attracted so many curious people that the area was enclosed with snow fencing.*



*Armored skeleton. with skull, copper tubes, hide wrapping and tuft of light hair.*

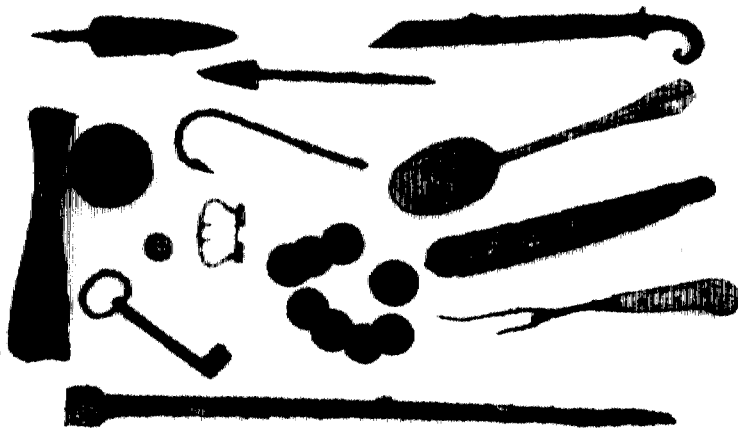


*Second skeleton in flexed position, found near first. Typical of Indian burial.*



*Pemaquid Peninsula — the location of an English settlement in the 1600's and 1700's. This is the site of the present excavations.*

*A section of the foundation of site No. 1, thought to be the customs house of James, Duke of York, c. 1677.*



*Metal Artifacts typical of the thousands recovered.*

*Included here: Pewter spoon and other tableware. Fishhooks and spears, branding iron, belt buckle, key. Hibernian coins, cannon and musket balls, and others unidentified.*



Marshall L. Rice

Arrowpoints of stone, antedating the period of earliest Roman History are plowed up on the Campagna just outside the walls of ancient Rome. They occur in the gravel beds of the Thames and Seine within the limits of London and Paris. They were unearthed by Schliemann among the ruins of Mycenae; and chipped flint instruments older than the civilization of Egypt are found along the banks of the Nile River in the vicinity of Thebes and Memphis. These remains of primitive man seem to have been distributed throughout all countries. Taken from Antiquities of Tennessee by Gale Thurston, P.318.

Who on some long winter evening slated in the friendly warmth of the fireplace, has not contemplated the existence of his Indian neighbors and their ancestors during similar long winters? Who of us who have dug into the past has not worked and pondered over the artifacts of years gone by. Tools, yes, some were tools, nearly all were for our Northeastern Indians seemed to have spent most of their time eeking out a living as shown by the scarcity of ornaments, ceremonial pieces pipes, amulets, etc.

For the past twenty odd years I've done extensive digging and surface searching up and down the coast of Maine, from the New Meadows River in Harpswell to Cape Split in Addison. Most of my digging has been confined to shellheaps along the coast and on islands of Jericho and Blue Hill bays. As a youth I searched and found arrowheads of quartz in southeastern Massachusetts. I was rewarded with several fine broad points from the Bloody Brook area of the Deerfield valley, scene of the famous Bloody Brook Massacre. I have a fine small celt like instrument found in South Medford and another scraper picked up in a farm garden in South Sudbury.

Twenty-nine different sites have been dug in Maine. I use a six (6) tined clam hoe. I realize some society members refer to this type of digging as pot hole, but here I defy to do a better job of excavation in shellheaps with any tools other than what I use. My ground is thoroughly covered from top to bottom. To date I've never broken an artifact digging in this manner. Records are kept of all material found and depths recorded. In many cases these records are incorrect due to the area having been previously distributed mostly by people who either knew not what to look for or who failed to properly examine the area. I've frequently surface searched these areas in the Spring and have found excellent specimens exposed by the elements during the

winter months. In the Spring and after violent storms are excellent times for surface collecting along the beach below the sites.

One place of shell in extent 180' x 70' has yielded numerous chipped and bone pieces. A grave excavation was done here on Christmas afternoon several years ago. The burial lay on the right side, knees under chin and atop the skeleton were three rather large stones which with the weight of time and decomposure of remains crushed the whole structure to a flat plane. No artifacts were found near or with the burial. In all the skeleton would have fitted into a shallow grave no more than 30" in diameter and about 20" deep. This burial was in clam shells and covered by same. It was located on the northwest side of the area near a large boulder and faced south. No pictures were taken but the excavation when cleaned looked much like the one preserved by Klar Beck for the State Museum.

Hardly do I ever surface search or dig that I do not find artifacts of value. One site is a continual producer of bone points, harpoons and bone awls. Bone artifacts are found in quantity at some sites. Pictured are three harpoon points, two awls, one hallow and one solid bone, one bone arrow point, four bone shaft points and two beaver tooth scrapers. I've found nothing which would resemble a fish hook similar to those made by western Indians. With the apparent trading which went on as indicated by materials entirely foreign to our area it seems strange that no hooks were traded or made from western patterns from shell or flint, especially since so much livelihood depended on fishing. Talking with other members I gain the impression that bone points, figs. 8,9, 10,11, were used as buttons or often a second short point bound on and the whole used as a fish hook I feel these points to have been used as extentions to arrow shafts to give a hard sharp point for intrusion. Apparently bone arrow points, fig #6, were rare but not uncommon as they are shown and described by Willoughby in Antiquities of New England Indians. Bone awls, figs. #4,5, with knuckles attached are quite common evidentially having been used for both large and small work as evidenced by the size of point and length of cutting edges. Most awls of our area are made of hollow leg bones, however, I've several made from solid bone slivered or split from larger pieces. Fig. #4 is hallow, #5 is solid. Beaver tooth scrapers, figs. #6A and 7, could have been used as small awls but probably were scraping tools because of the fine hard cutting edge on outside of the tooth. Many of these are found perhaps because of the ease with which they could be taken.

I hear reports and occasionally see an ornament but have found none. I do have two polished bone

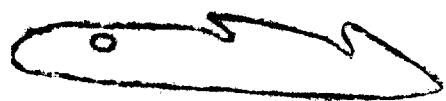


FIG 1

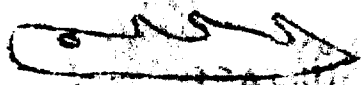


FIG 2

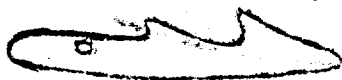


FIG 3

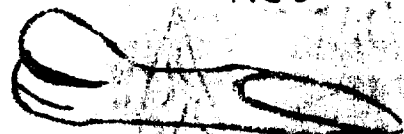


FIG 4



FIG 5



FIG 6



SIDE

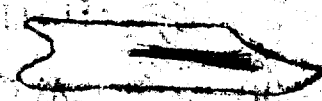


FIG 6A EDGE



SIDE

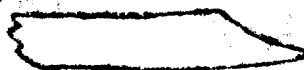


FIG 7 EDGE

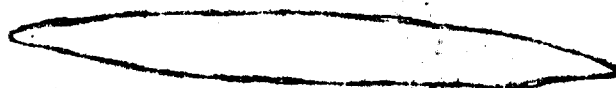


FIG 8

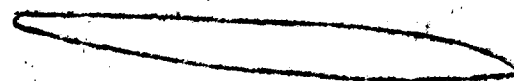


FIG 9



FIG 10

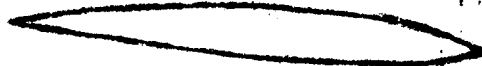


FIG 11



FIG 13  
BLACK



FIG 14  
BLACK FELSITE



FIG 15  
KINEO

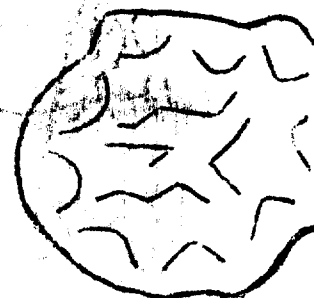


FIG 17  
KINEO

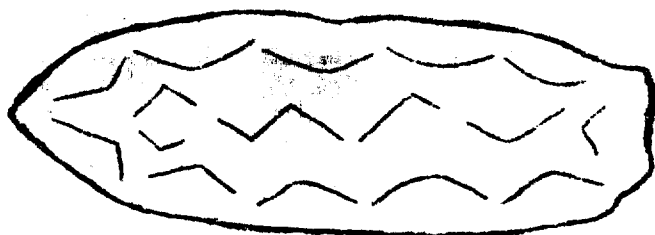


FIG 16 KINEO



FIG 18 FINE GREEN FELSITE

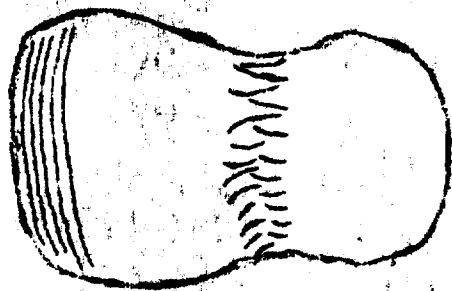


FIG 19

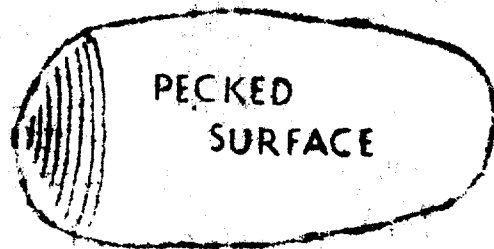


FIG 20



FIG 21  
QUARTZ



FIG 22  
GREEN  
FELSITE



FIG 23  
BLACK  
FELSITE



FIG 24  
GRAY  
FELSITE



FIG 25  
BLACK  
FELSITE



FIG 26  
KINEO



FIG 27  
RED  
JASPER



FIG 28  
BLACK  
FELSITE



FIG 29  
KINEO



FIG 30  
KINEO

heads about 2" long given to me by a friend of this area. Lack of ornaments has been a wonder to me for it seems no matter how poor other Indians, around the United States, were they have left behind artifacts of beauty, gorgets, pendants, pipes, beads, wampum, ceremonial pieces and the like.

Occasional pieces have been found but for the most part are totally lacking in my area. So far the only permanent expressions of beauty I've dug have been in the form of pottery rim shards. I've a number of rim pieces large enough to determine both diameter and approximate upper shape.

One day I unearthed a spear point, fig. #15, which appeared to have been in a small pot. After piecing together some parts I found the vessel to be about 4½" in diameter and the same height.

I've often questioned the use of various artifacts and feel the most general use should constitute the name, figs. #13, 14, 15 spear points. Figs. #16, 17, 18 knives. It is difficult to determine differences as both in some cases could be used interchangeably.

A fine bladed grooved axe from a Deer Isle site fig. #19, was no doubt hafted. My wife found on the beach at Pond Island a fine specimen of axe of typical tomahawk shape, fig. #20. This one was made by the pecking method.

Perfect notched points are not abundant but frequently found. Dissimilar notching and non-conformity of size make them distinctive. What greater thrill to a digger than to find a fine perfect notched point! Most are kineo while others may be green or black felsited, red jasper and on rare occasions white quartz as fig. #21, Figs. #22 to 27 show various forms and are of fine workmanship. Figs. #28, 29 and #30 sometimes called war points were not bound tightly to the shaft but held by pitch or resin, therefore, being left inside the animal if the shaft were removed or brushed off.

Lastly I want to mention the thumb or humpback scrapers. I have dug or picked up from various sites over 150 ranging from dime size to that of a half dollar. It amazes me that so many are found while other tools are so scarce. No doubt other larger tools were used for fleshing also but lack the distinctive scraping edge of the little ones. Once the distinctive scraping edge is noted it is easy to recognize them while digging or surface searching. These scrapers come both right and left handed, double edged and of many different materials. One I have is unique in that it has a hooked point on one side possibly for grooving bone for splintering. Along

with these I have a couple made from English gun flints approximating the date of their use. I also have two gunflints of a native material which came from a Deer Isle site.

No doubt some will be in disagreement on some points, however, we all learn from one another. No one but the original maker and user could tell us of the artifacts we find today.

THE BASIN SITE 1965  
Harold E. Brown

Because of other commitments not too much work has been done at the Basin so far this year. A group from the Portland area under Ruth McInnis worked one day and several other days were occupied in cleaning up squares that have been partially excavated. No significant discoveries have been found so far.

One of the most interesting features of the site is the large amount and variety of the pottery sherds that have been found. Rim sherds from at least eighteen different pots have been found. Samples of these sherds were sent to Doctor William Fowler of the Bronson Museum in Attleboro for analysis. He found that most of the pottery is Stage II (Massachusetts Classification) a less amount is Stage III. No Stage I or Stage IV fragments have been found. This would seem to indicate that the site was not occupied very early. Probably the site became a permanent camp about 1,000 years before present and was abandoned before the advent of white people. However, since Late Archaic type projectile points and fire pits have been found below the shell strata the site may have been used by casual hunting parties for many years previous.

One large pot has been about 60% restored. It is a Stage II pot and stands about 18 inches high and is 12 inches in diameter at the neck. This pot is now on display at the Phippsburg Historical Society Museum along with other artifacts from the site. Several other pots are also in the process of restoration.

We hope to be able to do more work at the site this Fall. High school students and several other local people have indicated an interest in helping with the work. Another large site nearby will also be investigated.

## MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT HARRY NICKELS

This can truly be called the age of discovery for the M.A.S. The members of the society by their efforts have brought the names of "Pemaquid", "Cameron Point", "Castine", "Damriscove", "Swan Island", not only to the minds of native state of Mainers but to the rest of the nation.

We have reached a new high in membership now enrolling 741 members. People have come from all over New England, especially summer visitors, to the diggings at Pemaquid where Mrs. Helen Camp has put them to work and enrolled them as members.

Your President has been flooded with inquiries as to the results of the Pemaquid excavations. There have been some who have taken the "M.A.S." for granted assuming that we were just a group of free-lance "pot holers". We have proven that we are a conscientious group of history minded people anxious to uncover the past history of Maine. We are appreciative for the recognition of the Hon. Governor John H. Reed in his commendation of the society in the press.

We have been approached to conduct excavations at Damriscove Island and, also, at Pownalborough Court House in Dresden, so it looks as though the M.A.S. has many active years ahead.

## M.59

At a shell area dig, site M.59, it was found that the original ground level was four (4) feet below the sod. While the area has been dug at random no one had gone more than 18 inches below the surface.

Of interest were the types of shell fish used by these ancient men. Included were 99 per cent soft shell clam, but also occurring were sea scallop, quahog, edible muscle, moon snail, 10 ring whelk, common whel and terrestrial snail. Pottery was coarse and poorly shell tempered but much in use.

It is hoped to do more extensive work here in 1966.

THE BATH MARINE MUSEUM  
Harold Brown

PAGE 12

Although a marine museum has only a limited interest to those interested in archaeology, the experience we have had in organizing the Museum should be of interest to any group who has in mind the development of a worthwhile civic project. What has been done in Bath is a classic example of what can be done by dedicated purpose, skillful publicity and hard work.

The Bath Marine Museum was conceived by a few interested Bath citizens early in 1964 who organized to promote and preserve the maritime heritage of Bath. Among these were William Mussenden, Dr. Charles Burden, Duncan McInnis, John Newall and Frank Given. As a matter of fact a museum was not the primary project of the group which was organized as the Marine Research Society of Bath. The original purpose was to sponsor the writing of a maritime history of Bath based on the material accumulated by Mark Hennessey.

As an experiment it was decided in May 1964, to collect material and open a small museum in a rented store in the business district. Local people responded and loaned or donated paintings, models and other marine material. The Bath Iron Works and Hyde Windlass donated exhibits which they had on display in their offices. The Museum opened July 1, 1964 and although there was considerable interest by the public it was not spectacular. We had an average daily attendance of forty and a total for the summer of about two thousand. During the summer considerable thought was given to sponsoring a permanent museum. This was further encouraged by the offer of Mrs. Camilla Sewall Edge of the home of her father, the late Harold Marsh Sewall. There was some hesitation in taking on a twenty seven room mansion. There was a question as to whether enough material could be collected to utilize the space to advantage. However, the offer was accepted and in September all material was moved to the new site.

Bath has never been particularly noted as a city with a great deal of community spirit but when the appeal went out for help the response was spectacular. Local carpenters, electricians, plumbers and those with other special needed skills gave their services. Other volunteers were divided into committees and took on various phases of the organization of the displays. When the appeal was made for material for display we were amazed at the quality and the amount that there was in Bath. It became not a matter of filling empty space but selecting the best so there would be no crowding. There was scarcely a day from September to June when there were not from one to twenty volunteers working in the building.

Most of the credit for the splendid publicity should go to Mrs. Priscilla Montgomery. She has done an outstanding job in getting the Museum's story to



the public. As a result of her work articles on the Museum have appeared in the New York Times, Christian Science Monitor as well as many other newspapers, radio and television.

As a result of this publicity attendance has been far beyond expectations. Instead of an expected average of about fifty it has been nearly two hundred per day. When the Museum closes the total attendance will be over 17,000.

The museum operates with a paid staff of five with volunteer desk attendants and guides. The Society currently has about 550 members.

#### SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Members have spoken before many groups during the past year, including Service Clubs, Boy and Girl Scouts, Day Camps, Schools, Museum Groups and Historical Societies.

#### AREA CHECKS

Areas checked at request of land owners as to the former occupation by Maine Indians were in Milo, Westport, Millinocket and Mattawamkeag. Evidence of living at these sites was found.

#### LOCATION OF MEMBERS

We are happy to have several hundred members join our society from out of the state. The live in 25 states and Canada. Mr. and Mrs. Millard F. Camp are responsible for enrolling these new members. They will receive the Fall and Spring issues of the Society Bulletin.

President Harry Nichel had a case exhibit of Indian material at the Depositors Turst Co. Bank at Boothbay Harbor. The exhibit excited a great deal of interest. Many people have added artifacts to it rather than have them lost or misplaced around their home.

## PESTILENCE

BY  
 Lesley E. Hall  
 Linconville Center

The French had long schemed for thousands of Indians to help them drive the English into the sea. But they were defeated by two disasterous events. The terrible war between the Terratinés and the Wawanocks thinned out those intended allies; then an unpestilence finished the job. This pestilence began its ravages in 1616 and struck down the war-weary natives until only handfuls remained of thousands. What this epidemic was, how it began, or where, is anybody's guess. By 1617 it seems to have worn itself out, and in its wake it left the land full of deserted wigwams and decaying bodies. New England was now ripe for English colonization.

Some writers called this fatal sickness a "plague". But was it? Such a plague as that which crippled Florence, London and other places, would have fallen as fatally upon the Europeans as it did the Indians. Whatever it was it seemed confined to the Indians. "--nor was it stayed by frost, as is yellow fever-- for it appeared in the course of winter--" (1)

The White man was not affected by this epidemic, as we learn from Richard Vines, who was living on the Saco River the, "-- lay in the cabins with those people that died--". And "not one of them ever felt their heads to ache while they stayed there--". Sullivan says, "-- they lodged in the desolated cabins of the savages in perfect safety--".

What were they symptoms? Those given by Indian survivors are all we have; "-- the bodies all over exceeding yellow, both before they died and afterwards--". The explorer, Thomas Dermer, who was over here in 1619, observed "--the sores of some that escaped--". (2) It seems to us today that this plague was a sort of virus to which the White man was immune and the Red man was not....

How severe was it? One writer says that the natives "dyed like rotten sheep"; another, "one in 20 escaped"; yet another, "left void of inhabitants", and so on. From the Indian Samoset, in speaking of his native Petuxit, that the land was wiped clean of men, women and children. In 1621 Gov. Winslow writes of the Taunton River area--"thousands of men had lived there, which died in a great plague--". And so the reports tell how the Red man had died so rapidly that there was no time for burial, and the "wigwams were let full of corpses".

Narrators have not quite agreed as to how much

of our coast this pestilence laid waste. Writes Robert Cushman, in 1622 -- "the country was swept clean", and in places, "absolutely clean". But Capt. John Smith claims that only 200 miles of coast was desolated. According to Otis (3) this epidemic "trod hard" on Mavooshen, the homeland of the Bashaba, until there was "utter desolation".

Thomas Morton (4) believed that the hand of God had struck these poor Indians this heavy blow. Since ancient times they had buried their dead with great ceremony, and carefully leave the place lest they be reminded of mortality. But this plague had struck with such suddenness, and they died "in heaps in their houses", there was no time for ceremony. Those few left alive were surrounded by their dead and dying-- so there was only one thing left to do. Those who could do so did so. They fled this place of evil and staggered to places of purer atmosphere. There was no abandoning this burial ground, for the dead here were left strewn "above the ground", and the pitifully few survivors had to put up with it until the vermin had eaten the land clean once more.

Could anyone have known this dreadful event was to occur? I shall now show two narratives which seem to be more than mere coincidences: First. O.H. Thayer says that in 1607 some Indians (5) visited Gov. Popham at the English colony, and spoke of their evil spirit, Tanto. It seems that this Tanto had threatened the Indians with sickness unless they stayed away from the White men, saying that two of the Sagamore's children would be inflicted first. Second. Capt. John Smith tells of a shipwrecked French seaman (1614) who was kidnapped by the Indians on, or near, Cape Cod. After being tortured and forced to work with the squaws, the seaman predicted that his God would bring a pestilence down upon the savages, and that other White Men would move in and take over. Surely, this happened.

The plague was so thorough, in fact, that early writers have commented on the usefulness of it. Morton says that this new land has been made so much more fit for English occupation, and "to erect in it Temples to the Glory of God." Cushman stated that those survivors had not enough courage to combat the English. Gov. Winslow noted that many tillable fields were left unattended to -- all ready for English seizure. Smith says that God "hath provided the country for our nation." And so the English settled in this weakened New World without much opposition.

Artifacts have been found laying just under the sod all along the New England sea-coast -- left right where the stricken natives had dropped them. They represent a change of history's course. Had the plague not have come, and thousands of Indians had used those same artifacts upon the English, the search for Indian flints might now be different. This might not be New England, as Capt. J. Smith named it, but rather, New France, or

Arcadia. But it is New England, and we pick up discarded arrow heads and spear-points without remembering the pestilence that made it possible for us to find them.

--- BIBLIOGRAPHY ---

- 1 "Three Episodes of Mass. History" by Charles Adams (Vol. 1)
- 2 "Gorges & the Grant of the Province of Maine" by Burrage.
- 3 "The Story of Pemaquid" by Otis.
- 4 "New English Canaan" by Thomas Morton. (rare book)
- 5 "Sagadahoc Colony" by O.H. Thayer. (rare book)

When were Indians in Maine?

The question is often asked "How long ago were the Indians in Maine?" Let us check on what scattered information we have. Glaciers covered the state 10,000 years ago. Bull Brook Site in Ipswich, Mass. is figured at 6,000 - 10,000 years old. Possibly Maine occupation was 4500-6000 years.

A CHECK OUT

At the request of Mrs. H.A. Harriman of Old Brooks Farm, Westport, a small shell heap was investigated in the vicinity of a camp her son has built in the area. As is true of many such areas it has been dug to some extent. It does not warrant any extensive work. While extending some 100 feet it does not extend inland but a few feet and has no great depth.



#### Wilson Museum - Season's Activities

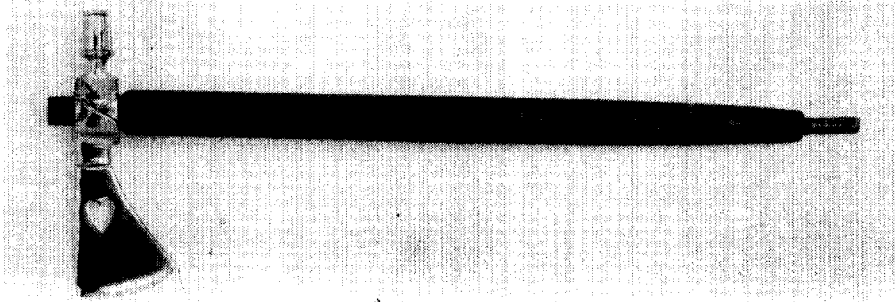
On June 19 Gerald Dunn led an exploratory dig at an old Indian camp site on the shore of Castine Harbor. This was a very active affair, members and friends came from northern Maine, from Mass. and points between. Forty or more were present at the supper and get-together that evening and a few members camped that night where Indians might have camped several hundred years ago. The next day the investigation continued in the Blue Hill-Naskeag area.

During the summer two small expeditions were made to site M-64 where animal bones and teeth, a number of sherds, bone points and one bone harpoon (broken) were recovered. The material from these digs, as well as that from Castine are in the Wilson Museum.

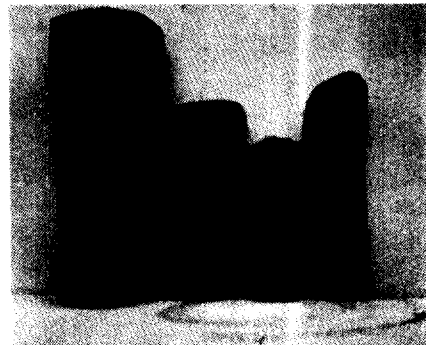
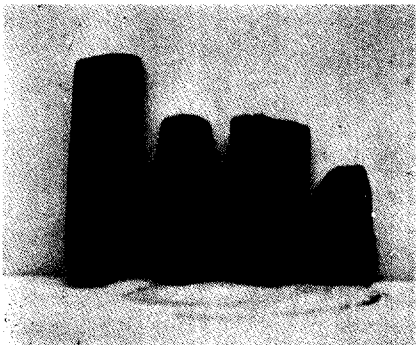
Mr. and Mrs. Robert MacKay of Millinocket attended the Castine meeting and showed a number of finely flaked, large jasper points etc. which they had found in their area. Later they returned to this museum bringing examples of their finds for a permanent exhibit. Mr. E.E. Hendrickson of East Millinocket has given red jasper blades of a similar type and an unusual stone bowl and fragments of disk-like objects quite unfamiliar to me. The MacKays also made it possible for me to visit the location of their investigations, showing me a number of fire sites on the lake shores below normal water level. The water is now so low that the situation must resemble that known to the Indians. The MacKays are stimulating interest and exchange of information in their area. One of the skulls (Carbon dated 1720 ±120) found in site M-64 a year ago, has been restored under the supervision of Dr. Shapiro of the Nat. Hist. Museum of N.Y. and is now on exhibit with the other material from that site in this museum. Again this summer we had a few more visitors than ever before, and we feel that, this year, they were also the best informed and most interested that we have had. We hope next year to have many more members of the Maine Archaeological Society visit us and if anyone has any information to give, comment to make, suggestion or correction, for any exhibit, please help us in this way.

Ellenore Doudiet

Reproductions of this English Trade Tomahawk make a wonderful display piece for a den, or present to those interested in Colonial days. They will cut, or you can smoke, if you wish just the way the Indian did. Send order to G. C. Dunn, Secretary Maine Archaeological Society, Gardiner, Maine 04345 and \$8.00. All profit goes to the Society Treasury.



When water is down to original flowage is the time to look for Indian relics. Cobbosseecontee Stream showing ancient camp site, fire burnt rocks, flakes, etc.



Large Ancient Adz Blades from the Millinocket area.

## SWAN'S ISLAND INDIAN DAY

The 2nd Annual Indian day was held August 7. One hundred and 3 registered for the exhibit, and evening of movies, slides and entertainment. Making arrangements were members Walter Bruce of Ledyard, Conn., and Swans Island group chairman Edward Wheaton a recent graduate of the Pematic High School. Registering were members from Maine, Conn., R.I., N.Y., N.J., Mass., Penn., Vermont and Washington, D.C. Twenty took part in a dig on the 8th. The two day event was considered a great success.

## WORK AT SITE M. 56

A careful dig at this site is being conducted by Warren Schofield of Sherman Mills. Five foot squares are being excavated by sequence. This was a contact site and has produced much of interest including white, blue and red trade heads and a rolled copper head. A very old archaic knife, plummet drills, numerous projectile points, many scrapers, musket ball and gun flint, many pottery rim sherds, hundreds of chips of felsite and red and green jasper. Warren has 100% cooperation of the owner. It will take a number of years to make a dent on this site.

## OAK POINT

Warren Schofield, Roland Allison, Maurice Blaisell and Gerald Dunn dug three fourths of a large pot in this much dug shell heap. Secretary Gerry Dunn had reconstructed a pot 10 inches in diameter at the rim, 30 inches in circumference at the bulge and 10 inches deep. There is very little decoration. The pot was found at a depth of 4 feet. Some of the pieces have disintegrated due to dampness and poor firing. It has a semi-globular base. A study of this pot indicates a base shaped in one piece and built up by coiling. We will have more to tell of this pot in a later issue.

## GROUP FORMED AT CLASSICAL INSTITUTE, WATERVILLE

Mrs. Paul Fullam of Waterville in her desire to make history live in the minds of students has taken the lead in organizing a group of students at Coburn as a chapter of the M.A.S. Mrs. Paul Fullam, Lloyd Varney, Dr. and Mrs. Clair Bauman, Dr. Edward S. Kierstead, Professor Donaldson Koons of Waterville, John Hill, Oakland and Gerald Dunn of Gardiner are lending their backing and encouragement to this new group and sponsoring the effort.

ARTIFACTS OF PUSHAW LAKE

2276

BY  
W. C. WINTER

I found my first stone arrow point in the spring of 1950 while pulling my canoe onto the shore of South Twin Island in Pushaw Lake. Then and there I was bitten by the proverbial "Archaeology Bug". Since then I have surficially explored many likely sites in this region, but due to its proximity to my home, my efforts have been primarily at Pushaw Lake, and its outlet.

I must be classified as a surface hunter as I have never staked out an area and systematically excavated and sifted the soil, or kept written records other than labeling my artifacts as to the general location where they were discovered. I hope, in the future, time will permit me to approach this fascinating hobby in a more scientific manner.

Although I have found evidence of Indians on most all shores of the Lake, I have yet to locate a major campsite on the Lake proper. If there are any, they will soon be lost to the plow of the bulldozer as there is a rapid influx of people building cottages along practically all shores.

I have located two rather large campsites on the outlet of the Lake. One near the mouth of the stream and another a mile and a half downstream. At each of these sites the Indians occupied both sides of the stream. I believe these locations were chosen because of the ease by which they could be fished by either nets or spears.

Much pottery was found at ~~both~~ locations as well as many chips. Most of the chips are of the "Kineo Flint" type of felsite with some red and black jasper, Rhyolite and quartzite. Several broken spears and a small gouge were found fashioned of slate. From what I have read, this may indicate the possible use of these areas by the Red Paint People. It was interesting to note that an attempt was made to chip clear quartz. I found a significant amount of the concoidal, glassy chips and one well made scraper of that material.

Practically all of the material found at both sites was on the shore of the stream during low water, on the eroded banks of the stream and just below the humus layer in the top horizon of the soil.

I hope to be able to write a more comprehensive study of these areas when time and help permits a more



systematic search as Mr. Warren Schofield is doing at a site near here.

Kindly refer to illustrations showing the types of artifacts found at the Pushaw Lake area.

1966 Slate of officers as drawn up at the September 19th meeting of officers, area chairman and Executive Committee.

President - Harry Nickel, 3 Bay Street, Boothbay Hbr.  
 1st Vice-President - Lloyd Varney, 15 Elmwood St.,  
 Waterville  
 2nd Vice-President - Mrs. Norman Doudiet, Nautilus  
 Island, Castine  
 Treasurer - Norman Fossett, RFD, Augusta  
 Secretary - Gerald C. Dunn, RFD 1A, Gardiner  
 Executive Committee - Harold Brown, 19 Bedford St.,  
 Bath; John Hill, RFD1, Oakland; Osman Finch,  
 Waldoboro; Mrs. Helen Camp, Round Pond; Sumner  
 Webber, Coopers Mills.

Area Chairman:

Castine - Mrs. Norman Doudiet, Nautilus Island, Castine  
 Boothbay Harbor - Harry Nickel, 3 Bay St., Boothbay Hbr.  
 Augusta, Gardiner -  
 Portland - Mrs. Ruth McInnes, 103 Gleckler Rd., Portland  
 Calais - Dexter Thomas, P.O. Box 387, Calais  
 Belfast, Lincolnville, Rockland - George Lacombe, Box 406  
 Lincolnville Center  
 Bath - Harold Brown, 19 Bedford St., Bath  
 Auburn - Paul Ward 22 Harris St., Auburn  
 Ogunquit - Kittery - Chris Ritter, Box 143  
 Waterville - Mrs. Paul Fullam, 22 Pleasant St., Waterville  
 Millinocket - Robert MacKay, 205 Main Ave.  
 Deer Isle - Marshall Rice  
 Old Town - William Winter, c/o Sewall Co., Old Town

Consultants:

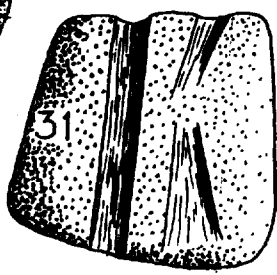
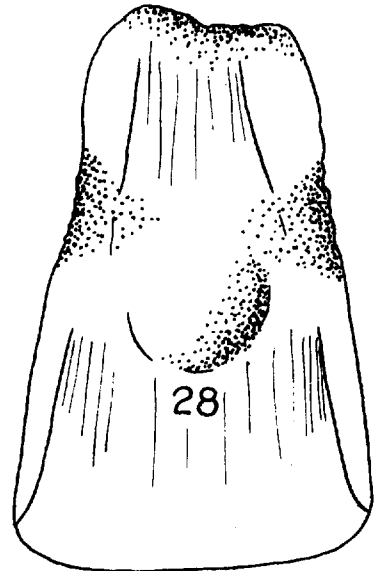
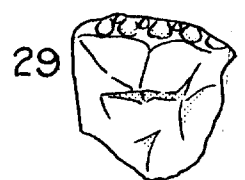
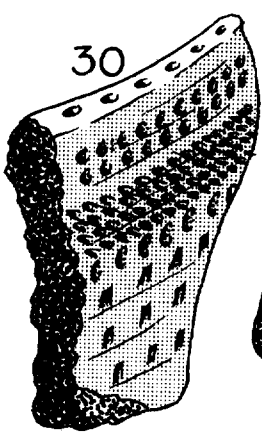
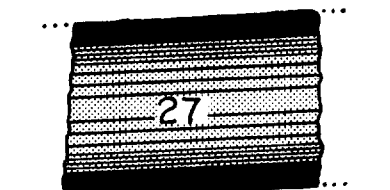
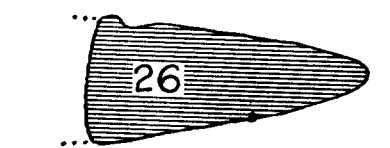
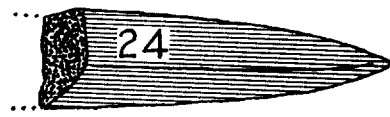
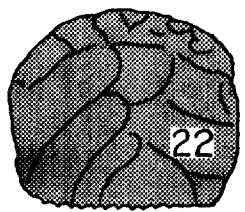
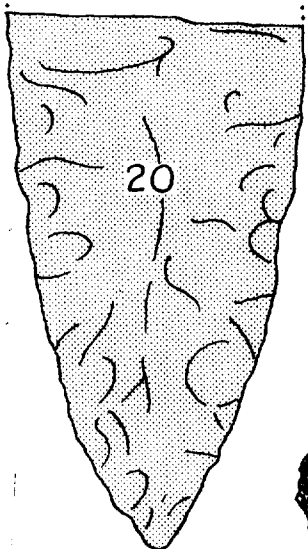
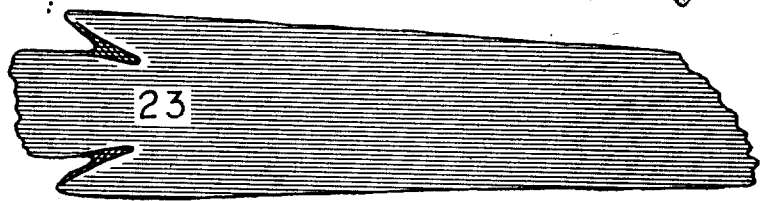
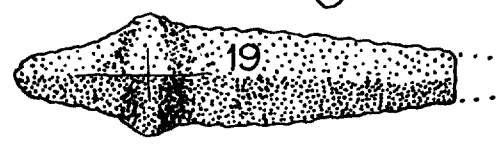
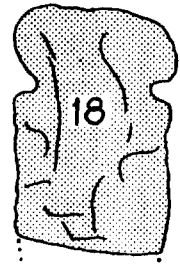
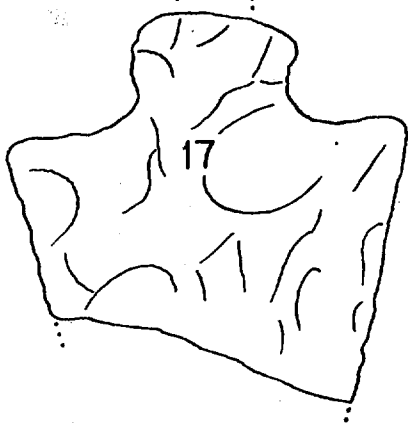
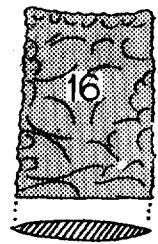
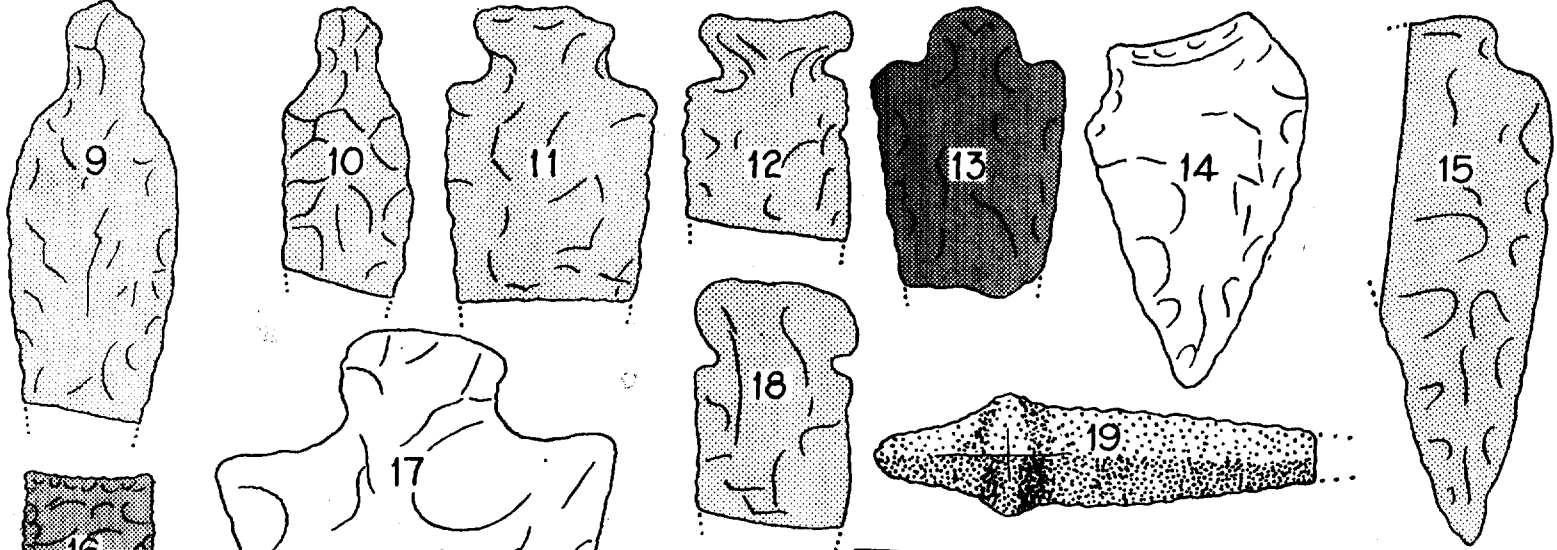
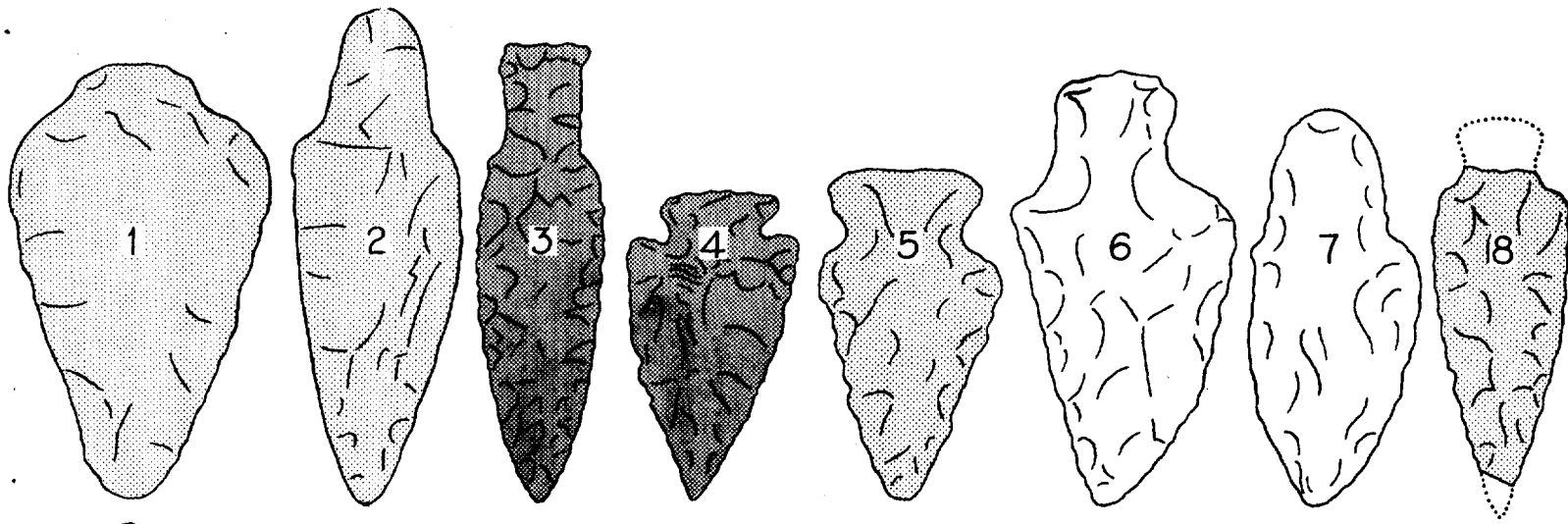
Soils - Albert Faust, RFD 1A, Gardiner  
 Shells & Fossils - Rober Dow, RFD, Riverside, Augusta  
 Indian Lore - Manley Cates, RFD 1A, Gardiner  
 Geology & Rocks - Rober Doyle, Brunswick Ave., Gardiner  
 Skeletal Material & X-Ray - Dr. Francis O'Connor,  
 41 Woodlawn, Augusta

KEY TO ILLUSTRATIONS

Source: Classification of Stone Implements,  
Massachusetts Archaeological Society,  
 Vol. 25, No. 1, 1963

Note: All are full sized except the shaft abrader.

1. Corner removed point of weathered felsite.
2. Corner removed point of weathered felsite.
3. Side notched point of black rhyolite, very well chipped.
4. Side notched point of red jasper.
5. Side notched point of felsite.
6. The author's first find - stem knife of felsite weathered snow white, closely resembles a projectile point.
7. Stem knife of felsite weathered white.
8. Side notched point of felsite.
- 9., 10. Corner removed point of felsite.
- 11., 12. Side notched point of felsite.
13. Corner removed point of blue felsite.
14. Eared point of felsite, weathered white.
15. Side notched point - note direction of break.
16. Very nicely chipped artifact of red jasper, broken, but possibly a knife. Note cross-section.
17. Large side-notched point of felsite
18. Side-notched point of weathered felsite.
19. Cross type drill of weathered felsite.
20. Large point of felsite.
21. Scraper of black jasper.
22. Scraper of red jasper.
23. Slate spear point found by author's wife.
- 24., 25., 26. Broken slate spear points.





Drawing of Indians quarrying Flint for making tools  
and projectiles.

Numbered artifacts on reverse side of page illustrate  
Pushan story by William Winters of Old Town.

- 27., 27A. Section of broken implement, possibly a bone. Note cross-section.
- 28. Small plain gouge of slatey material.
- 29. Scraper of clear quartz.
- 30. Section 3D, of typical pottery.
- 31., 31A. Shaft abrader 1/2 size. Note cross section.

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Ariz., 1; Calif., 3; Canada, 2; Conn., 57; Del., 5;  
 Fla., 5; Ill., 7; Ind., 2; Miss., 117; Md., 10; Mich., 3;  
 Minn., 1; N.H., 10; N.J., 66; N.M., 1; N.Y., 59; Ohio, 8;  
 Penn., 28; R.I., 7; S.C., 1; Vt., 7; Va., 4; Wash., 1;  
 Washington, D.C., 3; Wis., 1; Okla., 1; Maine, 412.

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