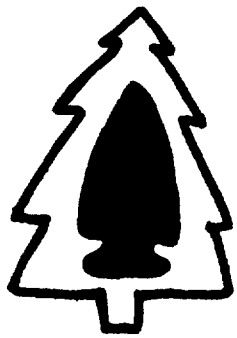
BULLETIN

Maine Archeological Society

Volume 15 - No. 2



20th

Anniversary Issue

Fall 1975

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Minutes of Annual Meeting of Maine Archaeological Society

The Directors Meeting: 27 April 1975
Prior to Spring Meeting of Society
at MTA Bldg., Augusta.

Those present: Lehti, Laselle, Rice, Soper, MacKay, MacKay, Brown by proxy.

Judy Husson appointed to editorial board.

Program committee for Fall meeting:
Publicity: Rice and Soper
Program: Varney
Hostess: Olive Rice

Time and place of Meeting: 19 Oct. 75 MTA Bldg. Augusta
Voted to discontinue membership in Maine League of Historical Societies: expense and not relevant to our field.
Voted to transfer any MAS material not at Wilson Museum to Archaeology Lab, UMO, for cataloging and study.

Society Business Meeting: (29 present)

Verified the action of the 1974 fall meeting, since there was not a quorum, in raising dues to $4.00 individual and $5.00 family and institutional.

Erid Lehti reported on work of Carrabec High School work at habitation site at Solon, adjacent to Solon Pictographs.

Eugene Laselle reported on visits to north European archaeological sites.

Robson Bonnichsen discussed research in Lithic Technology and gave demonstration of flint knapping.

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ANNUAL FALL MEETING

Sunday, October 19, 1975

Carrabec High School, Rt. 201, North Anson

Hostess: Olive Rice.

Directors Meeting: 11:30-12:00 P.M.
Lunch: 12:00- 1:00
Bring your own and fellowship. Coffee and refreshments will be served free.

Set-up of Displays
Bring yours. All want to see what you have.

Pictograph Field Trip: 1:00 P.M.
Wear walking shoes and warm clothing. (Weather permitting)

Regular meeting: 2:30 P.M.
Indian Dancing by Katakonans
Speakers

This looks like a great program shaping up. Come out and make it even greater!

Dues

All annual dues shall be paid in advance on or before the regular Fall meeting following the anniversary of the member's election to membership. Membership application will be found at back of Bulletin.

You will note there is an increase in dues, largely to offset rising costs for printing and mailing. This increase will be in effect for the year beginning September 1, 1975.

Note the new life membership box on the membership application.

Notes from the Archaeology Lab

The field season of 1975 was an active one at UMO, involving a number of different projects and a great many of our students.

Our new colleague, Rob Bonnichsen participated as a research team member in the search for early man sites in the unglaciated portion of the northern Yukon during June and early July. This Canadian government sponsored interdisciplinary project included a geologist, paleontologist, palynologist, paleoentomologist and 2 archaeologists.

In 1967 a research team led by Dick Harington, vertebrate paleontologist at the National Museum of Man, Ottawa, discovered redeposited Pleistocene faunal remains along the Old Crow River that had apparently been modified by man. A caribou bone flesher, found that season, subsequently yielded a radiocarbon date of 27,000 years ago. During the winter of 1973 a systematic analysis of the 14,000 bone specimens collected in the Old Crow area during the last decade was initiated by Bonnichsen. More than 30 of the 115 fossil collecting localities yielded mammoth, bison, horse and caribou bone artifacts and man modified bone. Perhaps the most significant discovery is that the large mammal bones can be flaked like stone.

The 1975 field project was directed toward the end of discovering and reconstructing the environmental and archaeological contexts in which these artifacts were produced. Significant geological and paleoecological samples were collected. However,

no early man archaeological sites were encountered. The elusive and disappointing search for stratified early man archaeological sites will be continued by our Canadian colleagues next season.

An archaeological survey in the Moosehead Lake and Allagash Waterway Wilderness was initiated by Rob during the month of August. The objective of this ongoing survey is to locate and record archaeological sites in interior Maine where our knowledge of Maine prehistory is very limited. Several significant quarry sites have been located so far.

Also, a video series titled "Experiments in Lithic Technology" were produced during the winter. The video-tapes are designed for university classroom use but could also be used at the high school level. Those who attended the spring meeting saw Rob Bonnichsen in operation. The tapes focus on basic technological concepts and are between 25 and 27 minutes long. Finished tapes include: percussion flaking; pressure flaking; pebble, cobble and boulder technology; and microcores and microblades. The series is a co-production of the Archaeological Survey of Canada, National Museum of Man, the Department of Anthropology and Institute for Quaternary Studies, University of Maine and the Visual Anthropology Unit Canadian Centre for Folk Culture Studies. Information regarding the tapes can be obtained from Mrs. Louise Estabrook, Archaeological Survey of Canada, National Museum of Man, National Museums of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. K1A 0M8.

Early in the season Bob MacKay and Dave Sanger examined future radar transmitting and receiving sites for the Air Force in the event that construction would endanger archaeological

sites. Sanger then conducted a survey of coastal areas in Washington County as part of the program of site inventory sponsored by the State Planning Office. Many new sites were recorded, and some of these have some potential for future excavation. Bob and Jean MacKay were able to spend some time in Aroostock County searching for sites and potential quarry areas. Part of Machais Lake was surveyed as was the Round Mountain chert deposit.

As part of the activities of the Maine Archaeological Conservation Program, UMO students Guy Moura and Scott Kirby spent a month on the Penobscot and some tributaries between Orono and Howland. Few new sites were found.

In July, Dave and Mary Jo Sanger directed a training excavation for 2 weeks in St. Andrews, New Brunswick, on a shell midden. The class of ten was made up of non-university students and the time was spent about evenly between excavation, lectures, and cataloging. The artifact yield was slight but the numbers of food bones high as we were digging in the dumping area of the site. The work was supported by a grant from the Canada Council to the Sunbury Shores Art and Nature Centre of St. Andrews.

Our major effort for the summer, in terms of expense and involvement, was at the Hirundo site for six weeks ending August 29. The dig involved Bob and Jean MacKay and Dave Sanger and 22 UMO students. Half of the crew were experienced and the other half were out for the first time. Our aim this summer was to procure a much larger sample of artifacts than previous in

order to be able to make statisically valid statements about the site. In our view, too much of the prehistory of the area has been written about very small artifact samples taken from poor contexts, such as old collections, poorly gathered and documented. Because Hirundo is essentially undisturbed it represents an excellent opportunity. Our work this summer was supported by the National Geographic Society (for the third year), the Faculty Research Fund at UMO, and the Hazel Smith estate. In the course of our excavation we tested the other side of Pushaw Stream and found it to be very productive. Our first impression is that it is not significantly different from the Hirundo site except for the possibility of a component thus far not found at Hirundo. Between the 2 sites, we excavated by trowel about 200 square meters. It will be some time before we have washed and catalogued all of the artifacts, and so a final count is not yet available. Our goal of a significant sample appears to have been met, however.

True to form, our final days revealed a real surprise. Bone began to turn up in a test square and pH readings were above 7.0. We do not know how extensive this area is, and it will take some more work in the future. In general, our excavation of 1975 clarified the stratigraphic picture, established the presence of an early component pre-dating the Laurentian-related occupation of 5000 to 4000 years ago, increased our sample of the Laurentian-related collection, and clarified some of the later habitation. We were blessed by exceptional digging weather; even during the heat, it was never unbearable under the

trees at Hirundo.

Our colleagues in related disciples report that their studies are progressing well. The pollen diagram from nearby Holland Pond is near completion as is a study of bog development in the area. These studies are being directed by Professor Ron Davis of UMO. Several students will be assisting us with the washing, cataloging, and analysis this year, and we hope to have a good start on a book detailing the archaeology and the paleo-environments of the Hirundo site. Finally, the Hirundo site has been nominated by the Maine Historic Preservation Commission for inclusion on the National Register, one of 4 sites in the State at this time to be so designated.

This academic year sees the introduction of the Master of Quaternary Studies program with an archaeology emphasis. Five post-BA students are enrolled for the fall 1975 semester. The program emphasizes the inter-disciplinary approach to archaeology and is normally a two year program. It is believed to be the only degree of its kind in North America.

David Sanger
UMO Archaeology Lab.
September, 1975

Hodgdin Site

Eric Lahti

For the past two years the Hodgdin site in Embden has been under excavation by students from Carrabec High School. The site is located about ¼ mile south of the Salem bridge on Route 201A and is easily accessible via a footpath. On the west bank of the Kennebec River it is above the high water mark making it an ideal habitation area. At the upstream end a large ledge juts into the river approximately 50 feet forming a pool of quiet water below. Originally the ledge extended farther into the river but was blasted to facilitate the log drives. This would have been an ideal place to intercept fish runs with either weirs or spears.

This ledge known locally as "Indian Ledge" is virtually covered on its downstream face by petroglyphs (see accompanying photographs). These were pecked into the rock, which appears to be a hard shale. in such profusion that in some cases overlapping occurs.

Much speculation has occurred as to the meaning and/or purpose of this artwork. Perhaps they record an event, represent features on a map, or perhaps they are just "doodles" pecked in by a bored fisherman.

Some defacement has occurred butas yet it has not been serious, mostly in the vein of "John and Mary-1968". Hopefully this type of thing will occur less in the future as people become more aware of the archeological and historical significance of this feature. Natural erosion has, of course, occurred but due to its downstream exposure has not been serious. Some damage may have taken place when the outer portion of the ledge was blasted but the petroglyphs seem to taper off before the blast scars.

The dig being carried out by Carrabec students is downstream from the petroglyphs. Seven squares have been laid out along a baseline and have been excavated during afternoons in the fall and spring. While the volume of dirt removed has not been impressive, the quantity of artifacts, pottery and chips, has accumulated rapidly. Presently over 50 artifacts have been catalogued including over 100 pieces of pottery.

The amount of chips, fire-cracked rock and bits of calcined bone indicate a fairly extensive habitation but it is hard to tell at this point if it was seasonal or permanent in nature. No past molds have been located and only one fire hearth to date. It should be noted that the seven squares represent only a very small percentage of the total site and it is much too early to make any definite conclusions.

The age of the site is difficult to pin down for the above reasons. All that can be said with any degree of certainty is that it was inhabited post-contact. The basis for this conclusion is one nearly complete clay pipe dated 1680-1710 from its bore, and one piece of clay pipe stem dating prior to 1650. In addition, one heavily rusted knife blade was found. Of course these may have been left by Europeans as the Kennebec was a major route of French trappers and missionaries during this period.

The pottery found thus far has been quite heavily decorated at least on the upper part of the vessels. (see drawings) The tempering material appears to be sand. The majority of the pottery was found in one pocket and appears to be from a single vessel. The nerve-wracking job of reconstructing has been only partially successful.

The projectile points have proved to be an enigma. No one type appears to dominate. Triangular, corner notched and side notched have turned up in no particular sequence or order. Some have relatively wide blades, some narrow, but no two are alike (see drawings).

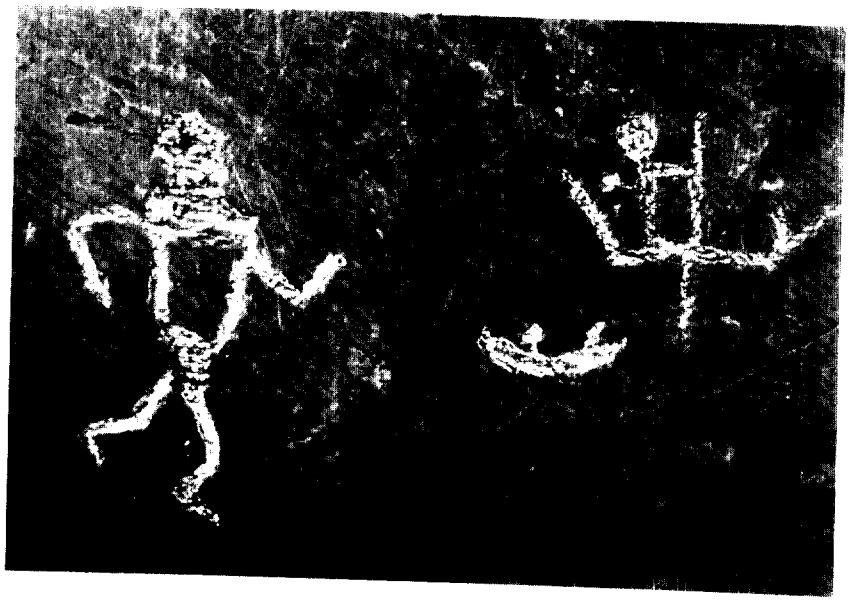
The stone implements tend to be of a rather coarse felsite with an occasional quartz or chert showing up. Overall the material is rather poor with most artifacts showing several hinge fractures. Of interest is a large quartz boulder located on the site that shows extensive battering. This fall's plans are to excavate a large square around the boulder to determine if it is the source of the quartz chips and artifacts found previously.

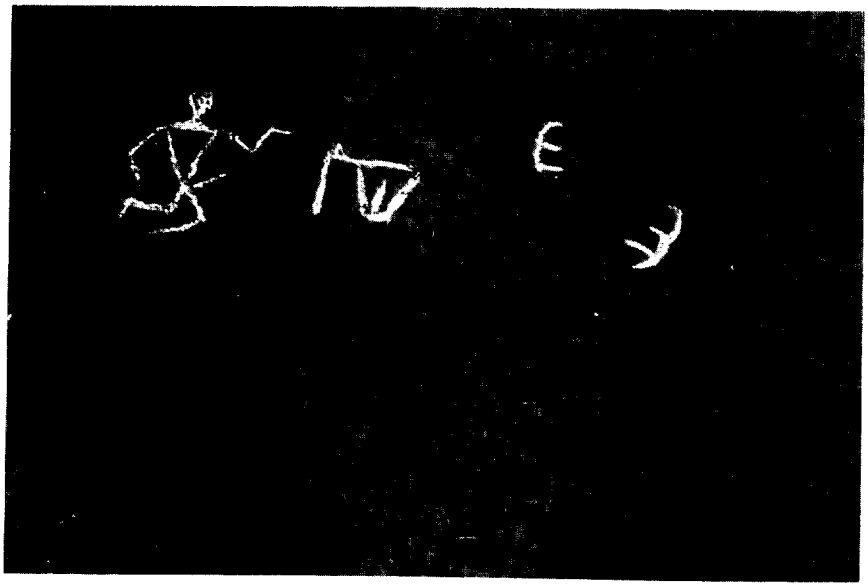
Overall the project has been extremely successful in its limited goals as an educational process. The students develop an appreciation of the field of archeology and perhaps their future interest will be channeled into constructive work rather than destructive "pot-holing". Accurate records are kept and these allow the student to return and attempt to formulate hypotheses from the raw data.

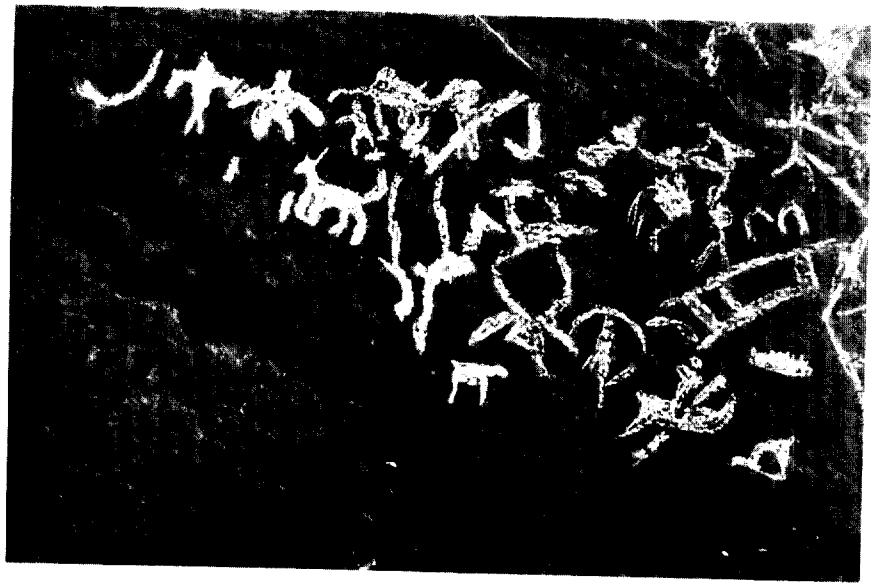
Only one problem has occurred and that is with the site more visible now due to the excavation, at least one person has taken the opportunity to do some destructive and unauthorized digging. The contract with Mr. William Hodgdin, the landowner, specifies that only Carrabec students under supervision are permitted to dig the site. Cooperation will be appreciated. Come and look but please leave the site as you found it.

Any person desiring to see the artifacts please stop by Carrabec High School and inquire. Visitors are certainly welcome.

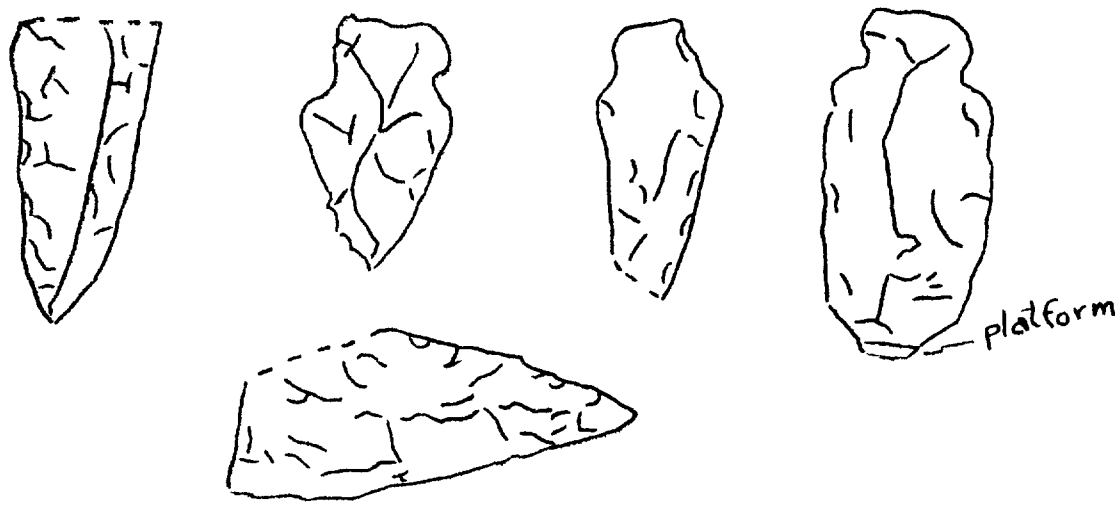
Photo credit to Eric Lahti.



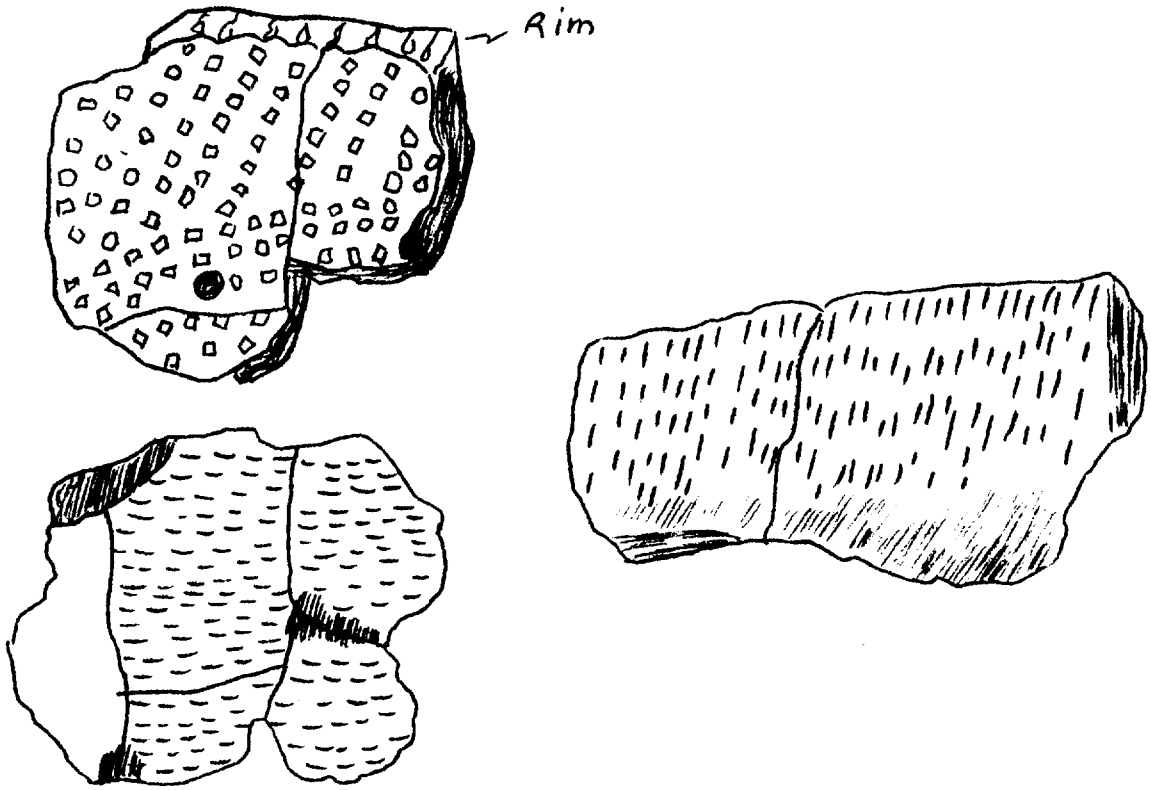




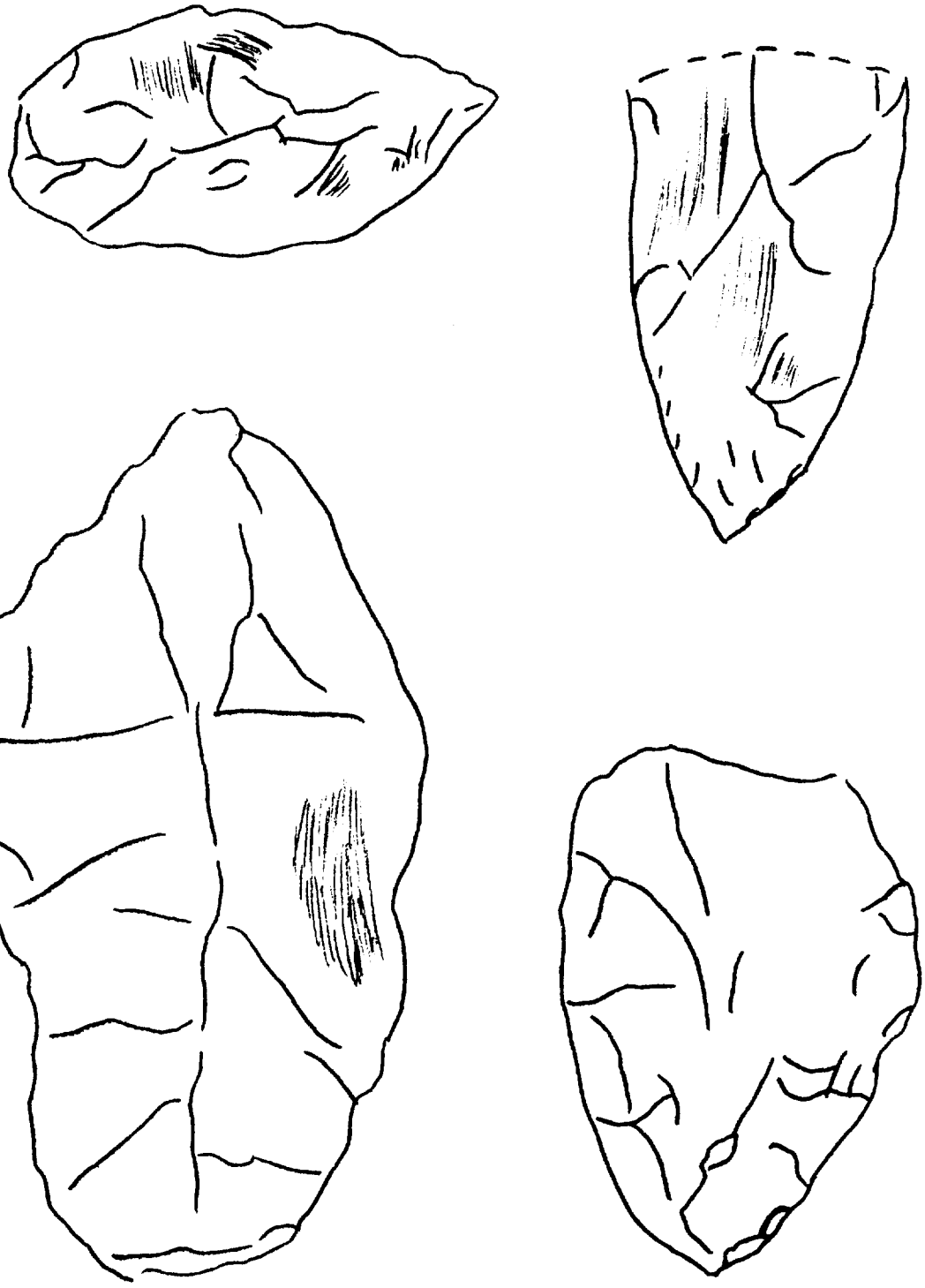
All Drawings Actual size



Projectile Points



Potsherds



Large Bifaces Site 69-4

TWO SEVENTEENTH CENTURY MICMAC "COPPER KETTLE" BURIALS
Part II

(Continued from Spring, 1975 issue)

French Trade Goods

Kettles: Copper kettles in the form of large open cauldrons with iron handles and iron reinforcing rims around the rim, were much the most spectacular items in the two graves. Nine came from Pit No. 1 and thirteen from Pit No. 2. They are of more than passing significance in Micmac life, for they were used on all ceremonial occasions and considered as having a spirit of their own. It was common practice to bury such kettle with the dead. Denys makes some interesting comments on such use; in great detail he describes French attempts to deter the Indians from wasteful burial of pelts and trade goods. The French opened a grave to prove to the Indians that any belief of such things being useful to the dead in the after world was mere folly. One gift found on opening the grave was a copper kettle which when struck no longer had a ringing sound. The native attributed this to the spirit of the kettle going to the other world.

Eight copper kettles have rim diameters of approximately 27" one is 24", one 18", one 15" and one 4". Two specimens not crushed have depths of 14-½" and 13". All are provided with iron loops for handle attachment, but the handles themselves are of three distinct types. In a single specimen, the handles project like a bar for 6" from the outer rim and terminate in knobs. This provided a convenient hand hold by which two men could lift the kettle when full, or for its support on solid blocks over the fire. Two specimens have somewhat shorter projecting bars without terminal knobs. Handles of all other specimens terminate in a simple loop. One oval kettle measures 9" x 11" at the rim. Similar specimens to all except the oval type have been found in New Brunswick graves and on Huron sites in Ontario pre-dating 1649.

Axes: Grave Pit No. 1 yielded five and Grave Pit No. 2 eleven French trade axes of conventional 17th century types. All are so badly corroded that no maker's mark could be located. The specimens range in length from 6-½" to 9". Two in the first pit retain portions of wooden handles, apparently straight sticks.

Miscellaneous Iron Objects, Grave Pit No. 1: Grave Pit No. 1 provided in 1955 a wide variety of articles. While described and illustrated in a previous report, the list is repeated to give completeness to the inventory. Iron objects in the grave were as follows:

225 double bladed spear points;
91 double pointed awls, of which 16 had wooden end tips;
19 so-called "spoons" or "caulkers";
1 spear or arrow tip, double barbed small flat point;
5 curved fish hooks with barbed tips;
1 wide chisel or wedge;
1 wide iron blade set in a wooden handle;

4 knives, slightly curved, of a kitchen type, rivetted wooden handles;
2 knives, very similar but shorter without rivetted handles;
1 heavy single edged sword blade;
5 single edged sword, 4 with leather scabbords;
1 single edged sword with elaborately decorated grip;
1 heavy double edged sword with double wedial groove on blade.

Miscellaneous Iron Objects, Grave Pit No. 2: In general the 1956 finds were characterized by a much less prolific number of iron articles, there being no spear points, awls or swords. However five small adzs or choppers were of very considerable interest (Fig. 7e) In each case, a flat iron blade with a tang projecting from the side was set into a curved handle of very hard wood and in some and probably all cases held in place with thong lashings. A heavy chisel was found with a length of 15", blade width 1-½", and shaft diameter 3/4". One iron spoon or caulker had been deliberately bent, apparently to be used as a scraper. One arrow point, a small knife, and several much corroded pieces of iron of indeterminate use completed the list of iron objects from this grave pit.

Glass Trade Beads: Glass trade beads were found in both grave pits. During 1955 a single spherical dark blue type represented by 112 specimens and of 1/16" diameter, was found. On the other hand there were several types in Grave Pit No. 2. Very dark blue ovoid beads of about 3/8" length were most plentiful; they were strung on a two-ply and very fibrous thread, fragments of which still remained. A second string of beads were of a translucent ice green colour, spherical in shape, and of a slightly smaller diameter. Most of these beads had already crumbled to a greenish powder when found or, if they still retained their shape, turned at once to dust when touched. A suggestion has been advanced that originally these may have been of red glass and undergone a colour change as a result of chemical action; an analysis of the powder might be desirable. Several ovoid beads were of about one-half the size of the larger blue ones; they were of a dark purple fabric and decorated either with lengthwise or diagonal opaque white stripes. The final type in Grave Pit No. 2 were minute dark purple ovoid beads of less than 1/16" diameter.

European Textiles: Grave Pit No. 2 yielded remains of at least two and possibly three twill-woven woollen blankets with a thread count of 18 or 19 to the inch. The fragments are now stained a rich brown but with dark lines of parallel stripes of pattening still visible. The original colours can not now be ascertained but the stripes were possibly red, a favourite colour with the Indians. Grave Pit No. 1 had fragments of twill woven cloth with a thread count of 50 to the inch. It appears to have been originally a brownish colour (or red oxidized?). One fragment, 7-3/4" wide, has three hemmed edges and resembles the end of a sash or loin cloth. Is this some type of grave clothing? Father Biard refers to clothing the body before burial and Wallis, without quoting his source, describes the occasional wrapping of a body with a long sash.

Ceramics: A single pottery beaker of pale reddish fabric, green glaze on the interior and upper part of the exterior, was placed under a kettle in Grave Pit No. 1. It may have held a food offering.

Vermillion: A leather pouch containing what is evidently trade vermillion lay near skeletal remains in Grave Pit No. 2. It shows a purple hue in places, evidently the result of adulteration. The pouch isalmost certainly of native manufacture.

Native Articles:

Woven Baskets and Mats: Many woven fragments employing bulrushes and grass fibres came from both burials. Some were undoubtedly parts of baskets, others possibly were mats of a type described by Father Biard as used for shedding summer rain from the houses. A basic twine weave technique was used in production of all specimens in which two weft threads were carried across simultaneously in such a way that they are twined around each warp thread. A soft basket of hemispherical form with diameter 6", depth 3", and made from coarse sedge grass, came from Grave Pit No. 2 (Fig. 7c). The specimen was sufficiently complete to allow of a complete analysis of its constuction. The two first stems of fibrous grass went from rim to rim right across the bottom of the basket; they thus formed four warp threads or spines of the basket. To these stems six additional warp threads or stems were bound at the bottom so that the first circle of weft twining at the bottom of the basket was carried around ten warp threads or spines. As further circles of weft twining encircled the basket, more warp threads were added by binding the lower end of each in the same loop as a warp thread which already existed, but on the next round of weft twining, it was bound separately. The proper flare to the sides was thus obtained. A total of thirteen rows of weft threads completed the basket but with the last two rows on the rim being very close together to give a firm finish. Portions of two other baskets with a similar weaving technique but differing in material came from the same burial pit; they are made from a two-ply twisted twine made by the Indians from fine grass. One of these baskets was lined with a very fine pelt, possibly that of a squirrel.

Fragments of woven bulrush mats or baskets came both pits. Two variants of a twining technique were used. In one type, the warp threads lay parallel to each other with two weft strands twined around them as in the case of the previously described basket. A decorative border was introduced into one by crossing over pairs resulting in a row of holes in what was otherwise a tightly woven surface (Fig. 7b). In the other variant, warp threads were bound in alternating pairs so that the warp was forced into a diamond pattern.

Sewn Bulrush Mats: Bulrush mats of two types were recovered. In Grave Pit No. 1, the bulrushes were sewn together at six inch intervals with a two ply twisted thread, the sewing going right through the thin part of the leaf blade. With the leaves threaded tightly on the twine, the resultant mat was the thickness of the width of the blade which was sufficient to have considerable cushioning qualities.

However in Grave Pit No. 2 mats were made in which thread was sewn through from side to side the width of the bulrush blade (Fig. 7a); the resulting sheet is only the thickness of the thin part of the blade. Several of these thin sheets were then lightly sewn together to give a mat of some thickness. Such mats must have been used on the floors or on couches since they would be impractical for shedding rain.

Thongs or Tump Lines: Several types of thongs come from Grave pit No. 2; either they were used to tie up bundles of pelts or as tump lines. One group are made of plaited heavy bulrushes; the ends were bound with a two-ply twisted cord to prevent ravelling. A second group are simply flat leather thongs about one-half inch wide. A third group are leather thongs, cut slightly wider, and then rolled into a tubular form.

Bark Dish: A remarkably well preserved birch bark dish measuring 3" x 8" and 3-½" high was found in Grave Pit No. 2 (Fig. 7d). A rectangular sheet of bark, 19" x 15" and at least ten layers thick, was folded to give the two sides and bottom. Then ends were folded in without cutting and held in place by stitching with what appears to be root strands.

Burial Pouch: A flat birch bark pouch with overall measurements of 12" x 33" containing child skeletal fragments, came from Grave Pit No. 2. A large piece of bark was folded over twice with edges overlapping; the resultant flattened pouch has a total width of 12". The bottom of the pouch was closed by twice splitting the bark and folding in the two outer sections to give a V-shaped bottom (Fig. 7f). A birch bark collar was next sewn onto the upper edge of the pouch with thin leather thongs. This end of the pouch was left open.

Miscellaneous Native Material: Grave Pit No. 1 yielded a portion of a wooden bow, several pieces of wampum, and some leather fragments, possibly parts of moccasins. Grave Pit No. 2 contained s several rolls of birch bark, two pieces of wood that may have been portions of boxes or bowls, and fragments of what appears to have been a woven rush basket. A cluster of small feathers was possibly part of an ornament.

J. Russell Harper

The New Brunswick Museum
Saint John, New Brunswick

ILLUSTRATIONS

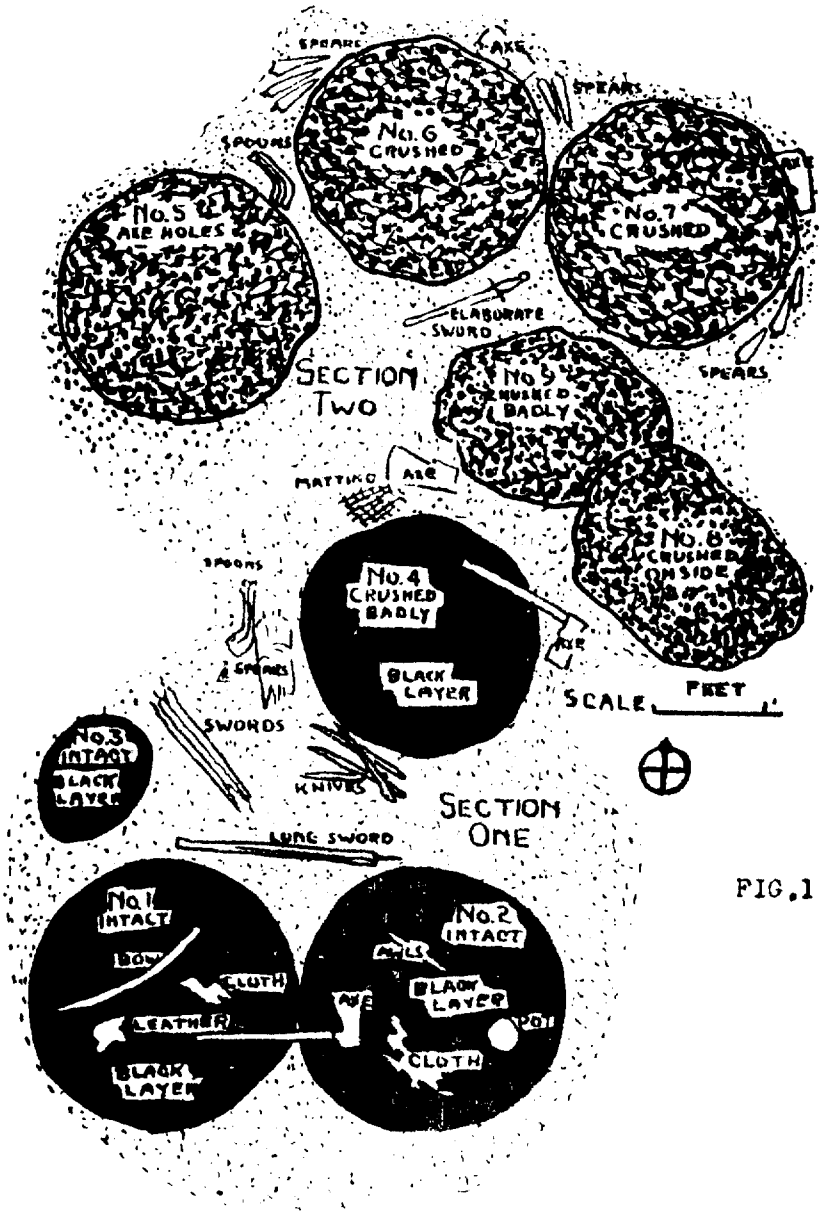


FIG.1

Plan of Burial Pit No. 1 excavated in 1955.

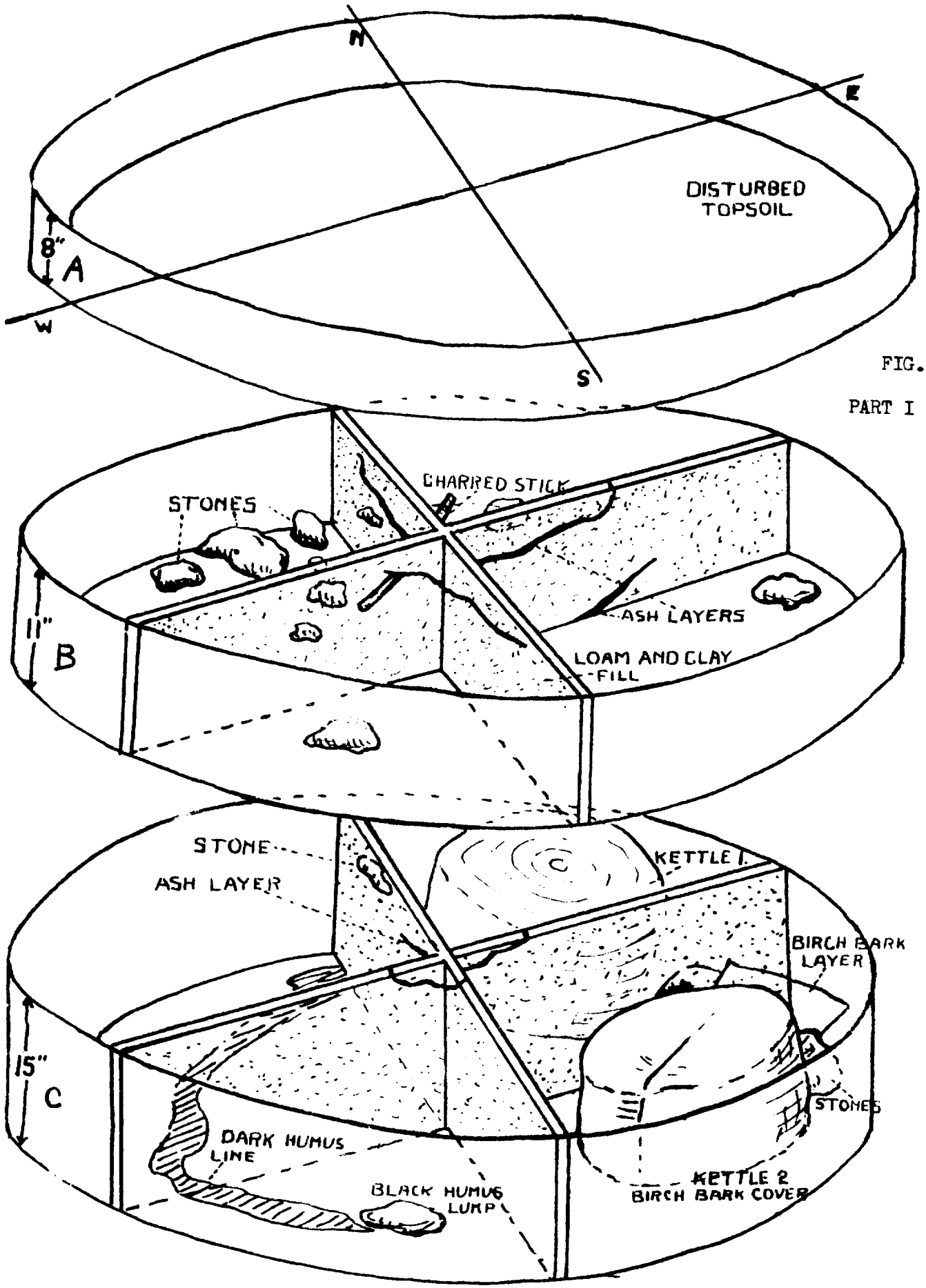


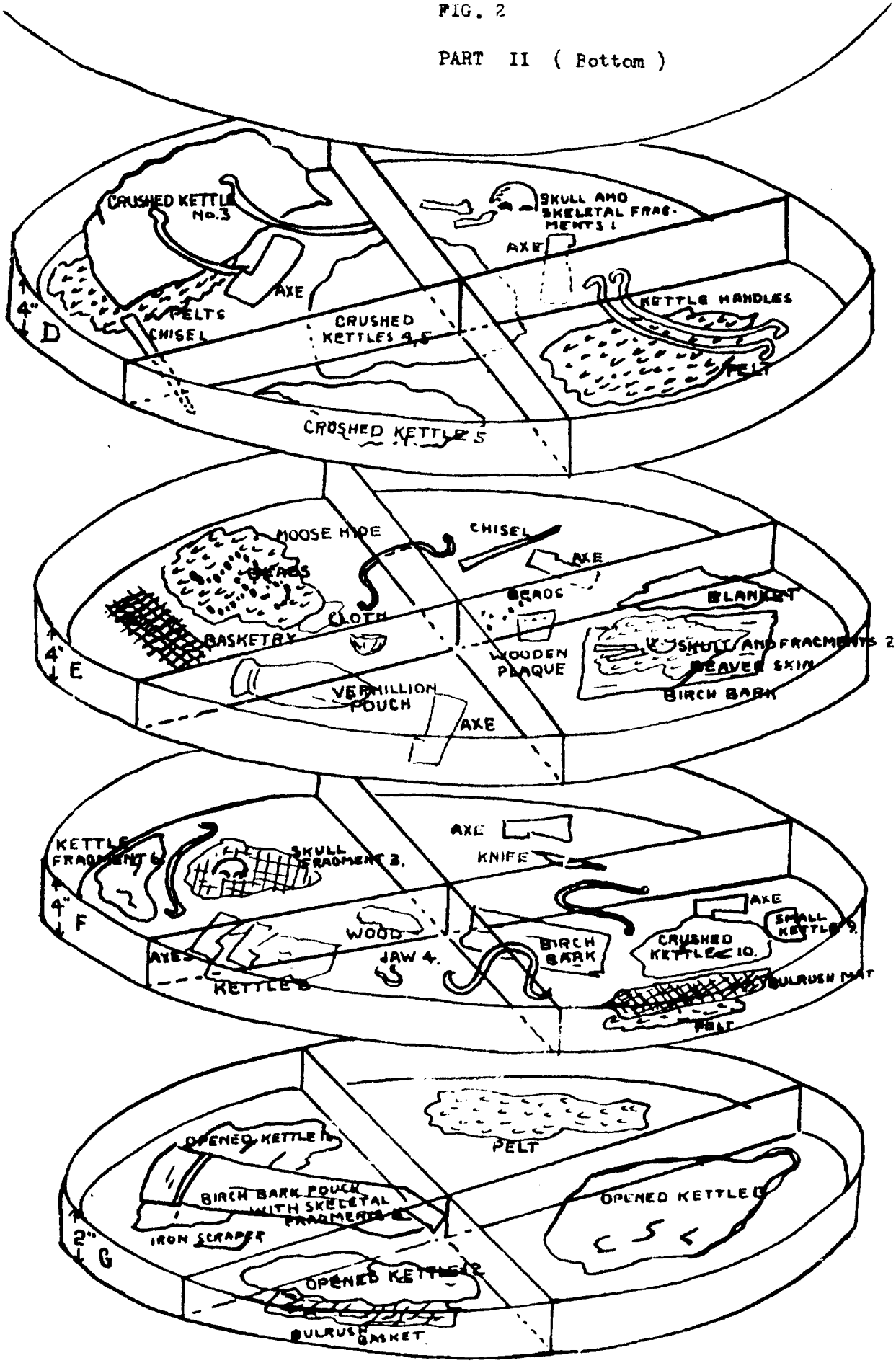
FIG. 2

PART I (Top)

Plan of Burial Pit No. 2 excavated in 1956.

FIG. 2

PART II (Bottom)



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LONG COVE: A MAINE SHELL-DEPOSIT SITE

Walter G. Bruce

Reprinted from Massachusetts Archaeological Society Bulletin, October, 1965.

The coast of Maine has produced many aboriginal sites on which shellfish remains have appeared in varying amounts. Some of these, such as that at Damariscotta, have had so much shell refuse dumped over them that immense middens have been formed, which appear as high mounds. These extend in some cases for hundreds of yards along bays and inlets from the sea and are commonly spoken of as shellheaps. However, there are others where the shell refuse does not appear to have been deliberately dumped in midden heaps, but seems to have accumulated about the living quarters of the occupants in a normal way. Most always such sites are not in evidence as a result of obvious mounds of shell, but are more or less flat areas hidden from view by vegetation, except for eroded patched of shell, which tend to expose the site. Such shell remains may be called shell deposits, and are more informative for archaeological excavation than the more extensive shellheaps.

Such an occupational remain was located by the writer in 1960 at Long Cove near the village of Mintern. This small fishing hamlet is located on Swans Island, which lies about five miles off the southwest corner of Mount Desert Island, settled in 1765. Today, lobster fishing is its chief industry, but in proto-historic times the Tarrantines, a tribe of the Abnaki, occupied the island. They promised help to the whites in the event of a Mohawk attack, and remained their loyal friends throughout the Indian wars.

Long Cove is situated across Burnt Coat Harbor from Swans Island Village in the township of Mintern. It extends back from the harbor some 1,000 feet, and at one spot a 10 foot wide stream of fresh water empties into the cove. Here, at the mouth of the brook, at an elevation of about 15 feet above tide water appeared the site, which is the subject of this paper. Only a short distance from the brook and up a steep bank, shell evidence was noticed where rains had washed away the humus cover. Here, it was decided an excavation should be undertaken. So work started in 1960 and continued through 1963 during a short time each summer. As the excavation progressed, it appeared that the site was comparatively small in size, covering about 1,400 sq. ft., of which 972 sq. ft. were carefully excavated in 6 foot grids. This comparatively flat area lies at the foot of a steep hill on its east side about 30 feet from the shore of the cove. In the Past, the site has been exposed to only superficial disturbance, which resulted mostly from the tramping over its surface by those using a blacksmith shop nearby, and by fishermen going to the brook for fresh water to fill their casks. Otherwise, the site has remained as it was left by its aboriginal occupants.

Occupational Evidence

Covering the area of occupation appeared 4" of humus underlaid by 2" of sand near the edges in one or two places, only, evidently there as result of erosion from the hill in back. Below these layers of recent fill came crushed shell deposits and other accumulations from aboriginal residents, which varied in depth from about 4" at the periphery to 20" near the center. Observations were made and recorded from three grids with results that show much variation in the sequence of occupational layers of deposit. For example, in one grid with deposits 18" in depth, appeared 1" of shell mixed with dirt, then 7" of thick shell deposit, followed by 2" of wet shell remains, underlaid by 4" of blackish soil, and finally 4" of reddish soil (no ash was present). In a second with 16" deposits appreared 4" of shell in black soil at the top, below which appeared 2" of ash, then 4" of reddish soil with some shell, then 4" of heavy soil, followed by 2" of ash, underlaid by gravel. In the third with 22" deposits occurred 8" of black soil with some shell then 6" of shell, below which came 2" of ash, then 6" of reddish soil on gravel.

It seems obvious from this evidence that occupation of the site occurred at intervals, in which different parts of the area were lived on at different times - uniform occupation of the entire plat probably never took place from generation to generation. This This sporadic sort of camping, therfore, has so completely mixed the layers of deposit, as to destroy their value as indicators of culture sequence. In spite of this nonconformity to the usual uniform distribution of occupational layers, much may be learned from a study of the evidence.

There appeared at least 7 refuse pits varying from about 12-27" in depth. They contained whole shell remains, for the most part some quahaug, a few large oyster, a large amount of clam, and a few periwinkle mollusks, beside animal and fish bone remnants. As for artifact contents, the pits produced most of the 800 potsherds that were recovered, while stone artifacts, in general, were found outside the pits. At the bottom of one pit appeared a 10 lb. chunk of local blue clay mixed with mineral temper, evidently prepared for pottery making. It had been left behind unused, but seems proof enough that pottery had been made at the site.

Only one stone hearth was found in situ. It was a large one extending into four grids, and appeared at a depth of about 16". Evidently, it had been used extensively, as it had an accumulation at its bottom of 6" of ash. Throughout the site were scattered many firestones, which indicated more hearths had been present at some time, but had become demolished during the life of the site.

Pottery remains at the site form an important part of the recoveries, as they indicate time of occupation. Of the 800 sherds, most appear to belong to Stage 2 ware, while one or two sherds indicate time of occupation in the presence of Stage 3, one of which has a constricted neck with castellations indicated; is of rare occurence, probably diffused Owasco traits from New York State

(Fig. 3, #33). There were no sherds of Stage 1 pots, which places the time span of the site within the remaining part of the Ceramic Age, but before Stage 4, evidence of which is lacking. An important observation is that while most sherds appeared in refuse pits, there were many lying outside in the various occupational layers. Usually, such sherds were badly deteriorated, especially those found at the bo bottom of site deposits. For example, a few appearing in the dirt layer just above the gravel base, about 16" deep, were so badly rotted that they crumbled when touched. However, two of these were recovered without breakage, and were found to belong to Stage 2 ware with a stick-wiped interior and a conoidal base. A representative display is illustrated (Fig. 3, #29,30,32).

Bone implements are a significant part of the tools from the site. They occurred in all layers more or less throughout the site except in ash remains. In all, 167 specimens were recovered from which a selected representation is illustrated (Fig. 3). It includes: harpoons, fishhook points for binding to wooden stems, spear points, awls, etc. Such a collection never occurs except in shell remains, which tend to preserve them.

Finally, stone implement recoveries represent another important part of the evidence, as typologically, they may be studied as to their culture association. Many were made of Kineo felsite and of dull black flint. A few were of reddish jasper and of quartz. All told, several hundred specimens were recorded, of which a representative group is illustrated (Fig. 4). They represent types, which have been affiliated with Ceramic remains at other New England sites. A few types, like the Tapered Stem point seem to represent an overlapping from Late Archaic times, but on the whole, types hold closely to those of the Ceramic. Stone implements were found in all layers of deposit down to the gravel. A corner-removed #3 and 2 Small Triangular points appeared imbedded in the gravel; probably were intrusive from the reddish dirt just above in which other points were recovered.

Conclusion

At this Maine coastal site, there are several pieces of evidence that seem to this writer significant and worth noting. First of all, it is evident because of the presence of potsherds from top to bottom of occupational remains, that the site falls entirely within the Ceramic Age. This would make it a closed site of one culture. This is further confirmed by the presence of shellfish eating throughout. As reported in various site reports appearing the Society Bulletin, the practice of eating shellfish had its inception with the introduction of pottery making. Also, it is supported by Ceramic culture types of stone implements recovered, as for example: Large Triangular, Small Triangular #5, Leaf, and Side-notched #5 points; ceramic pipe fragment; to mention a few of the most diagnostic.

Absence of Stage 1 potsherds suggests that the site does not follow immediately the Late Archaic, but came into use some time later, when the advent of Stage 2 ware with stick-wiped interiors had been introduced. It was at a time when shellfish eating was

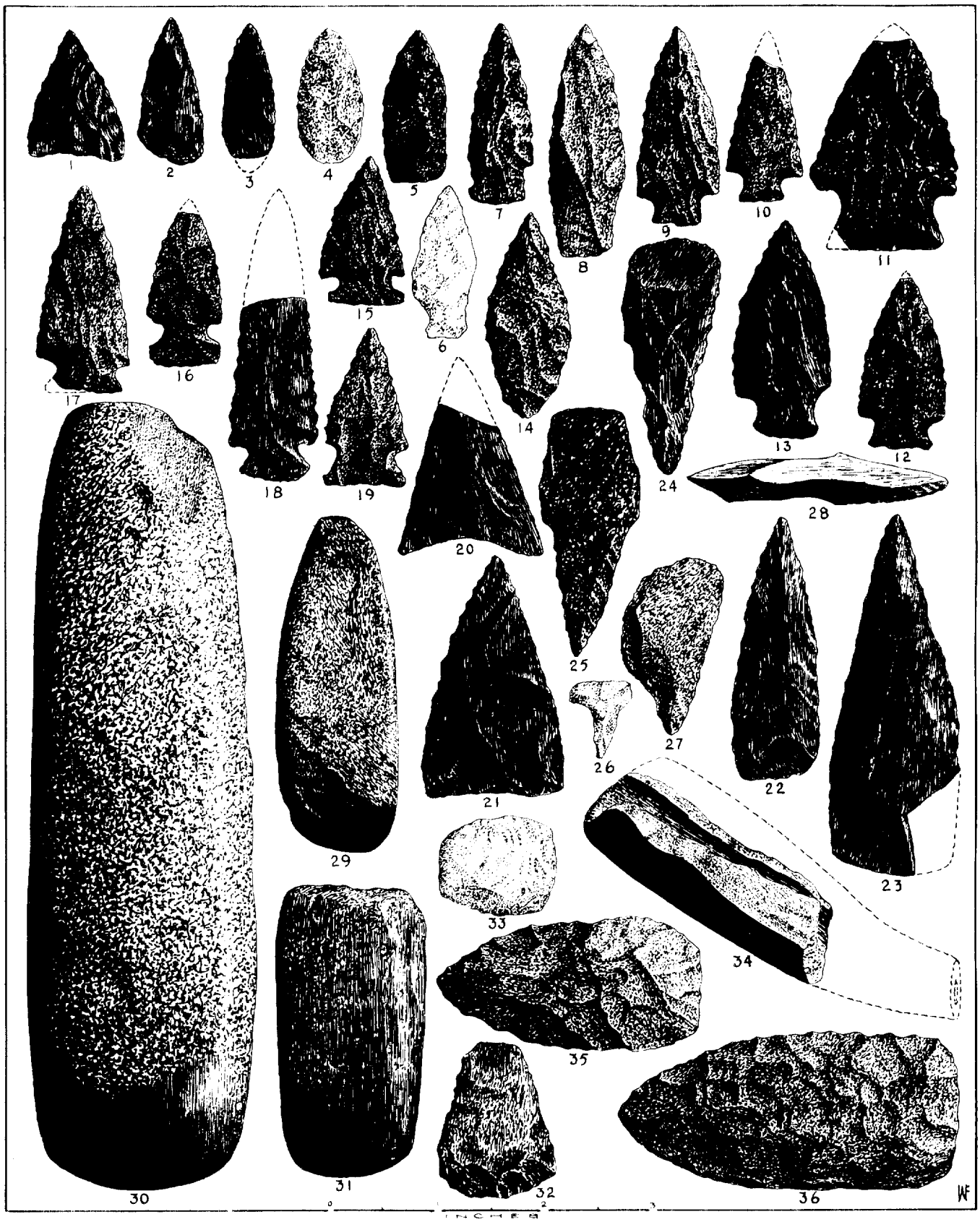

Fig. 4. STONE IMPLEMENTS, Long Cove Site. Projectiles: 1, Small Triangular; 2-6, Small Stem; 7, 8, Corner-removed#3; 9-13, 15-19; Side-notched#5, 14, Leaf; 20, 21, Large Triangular; 22, 23, Tapered-stem; 24, 26, 27, Flake Drill; 25, Tapered-stem Drill; 28, Flake Knife; 29-31, Celt; 32, Stem Scraper; 33, Flake Scraper; 34, Elbow Stone Pipe; 35, 36, Stemless Knife.

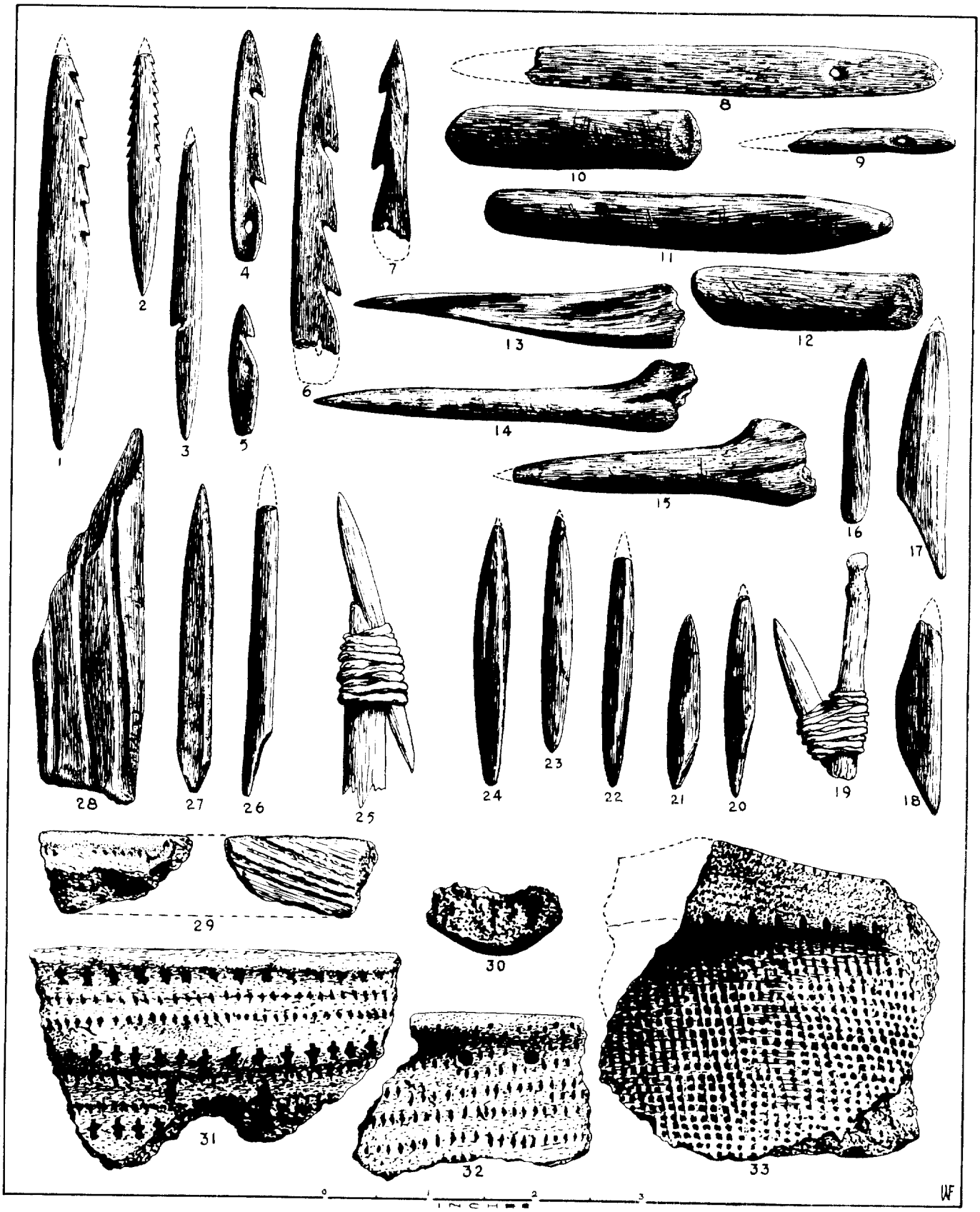

Fig. 3. BONE IMPLEMENTS AND POTSHERDS, Long Cove Site. 1-3, Barbed Spear Point; 4-7, Harpoon Point; 8, 9, Needle; 10-12, Pressure Flaker; 13, Splinter Awl; 14, 15, Ulna Awl; 16-18, 20, 21, Fishhook Point, (19, probable method of hafting); 22-24, 26, 27, Fishspear, (25, probable method of hafting); 28, Stock, (showing tools being cut out); 29, 30, 32, Stage 2 Sherds; 31, Stage 3, (laminated collar); 33, Late Stage 3, (Owasco influence: castellated narrow collar with constricted neck).

well established, and warmer weather than now may have existed with relatively warmer waters, since quahaugs were present. Furthermore site evidence of refuse pits in which shell refuse was disposed of suggests settlements of a more permanent nature than those of clam bake parties, which are presumed to have been responsible for the more extensive shell-heap sites.

The writer believes there is close similarity between bone and stone implement types of this site and those reported from Rhode Island and Massachusetts. To him, these type likenesses suggest racial similarity between the ceramic peoples of Maine and those in other parts of New England.

Ledyeard, Connecticut
February 1964

MAINE INDIANS

The Passamaquoddies are one of a large group of Algonkian speaking tribes who were once the sole inhabitants of much of the eastern coast of the United States, the plains states and nearly all of Canada East of the Rockies. Today our immediate neighbors are the Penobscot who live at Old Town, Maine, and the Maliseet who have reservations at Fredericton, Woodstock and Tobique, New Brunswick.

There are about 1200 Passamaquoddies; they live in nearly every state of the Union. Of these, about half live on the reservations year round. The largest of our three villages, called Sibayig, is on the Pleasant Point Reservation; there are about 350 Indians there. Our other two villages are on the Indian Township Reservation. Medakmigoog, located at Peter Dana Point, has about 200 inhabitants. About 100 Passamaquoddies live at Odeneg, located near Princeton. The largest concentrations of off-reservation Passamaquoddy are around Boston and Hartford. Often people leave their villages only for a few years, sometimes to live at Old Town or one of the Reserves in New Brunswick. Many return annually to visit and vote.

(Reprinted from:
BEZANOOD, PASSAMAQUODDY BASKET CATALOG, P.O. Box 345, Perry, Maine)

A SCARCITY OF DRILLS AND DRILLING

By Steve Feher

Recently, when compiling a list of the artifacts recovered from a very productive site in Washington County, I realized that one category - that of drills - was very poorly represented. Out of a total of well over a thousand artifacts of stone, there were very few specimens I could positively call drills and not a single artifact that had been drilled in any way.

Among the many drilled items that have been found in various parts of New England are the following: gorgets and pendants of stone and marine shell; necklaces of animal teeth; bone implements such as awls, needles, barbed points and harpoons; shaft straighteners of antler; tools such as celts and whetstones; atlatl weights; pottery vessels and stone pipes. None of these was recovered from this site.

Wondering if this were the case at other sites in Maine, I checked back through Maine Archaeological Bulletins for the past five years. In the artifact content for the various sites described therein, there was no mention of any drills. Coastal sites, of course, produced many bone awls, but no drills.

I realize that many items that could have been drilled were of more perishable materials such as bone, wood and ceramic. At inland sites, notable for the acid nature of the soil, such materials would not have survived, in contrast to coastal sites where shell middens helped to alkalinize the areas containing perishable artifacts and thus preserve them.

I considered the possibility that the inhabitants of all these sites had little use for drills. Although I found no drilled speci-

mens of any kind at my site, I did unearth a large cortex spall of quartzite on which five small conical depressions had been drilled. The nature of this implement and the reason for the drilling are a complete puzzle. It did, however, show that drilling, and consequently drills, were not completely unknown at this site.

I also considered the possibility that my excavating had not been thorough enough and certain specimens had been overlooked. But, inasmuch as I did recover items as small as single beads only 1/8" in diameter, this was quite unlikely.

Once again I went over the entire collection and weeded out those artifacts which seemed most likely to have served as drills. As illustrated, No. 1 appears to be an asymmetrical projectile point but may well have been a drill. The thickness of the specimen ($\frac{1}{8}$") inclines me to the latter view. Nos. 2 and 3 are quite obviously reworked projectile points altered to serve as perforating tools. Numbers 4, 5 and 6 appear to be well made lanceolate projectile points. Number 4 is oval in cross-section while No. 5 is lenticular and No. 6 has a diamond-shaped cross-section. None of these shows any trace of wear along the edges but any or all of them would have served admirably as drills or perforating tools. Artifacts similar to these were quite numerous at this site. No. 7, a fairly thin flake with an expanded base, has a well-chipped bit and is unquestionably a drill. No.s 8, 9, and 10 are thick, irregular fragments that bear a prominent point formed by very minute secondary chipping. Their substantial bases can be held comfortably and securely in one's fingers. No. 11 appears to be a rather nondescript waterworn pebble. However, one end has been ground to a four-sided point forming a simple but effective perforating implement. It is sandstone while all

the others are of felsite.

This sums up the drill inventory and it is meagre in comparison with the rest of the tool content of this site. Still, I am not about to conclude that the art of drilling was an unknown or forsaken craft here or elsewhere in Maine.at anytime in its prehistory. While looking through a report on the Hathaway Site at Passadumkeag, I noticed that a large number of whetstones had been recovered and many of these bore biconical drilled holes at one end. Two well-drilled atlatl weights were also recovered, as well as an oval pendant. No drills were recovered but since these were all burial goods it is obvious that only the more important items from the aboriginal tool kit were included with the burials. I would, however, expect to see some drilling implements recovered when the adjacent habitation site at Hathaway is excavated. If not, then I would conclude that the drilling operations were accomplished with tools of perishable materials such as reeds, bone or wood or the drilling was done elsewhere. Whatever the method, the biconical holes indicate that a tapering drill bit was used on the Hathaway artifacts. Clearly, the art of drilling was known and practiced at this early date in Maine's prehistory.

Since the Hataway Site is one of the earliest dated sites in Maine, I wouldn't expect that all the crafts practiced there would be duplicated at later sites throughout the state. But, since this craft was of value to the earliest cultures, I fail to see why it should not have been of equal value to subsequent and more advanced cultures, unless alternatives were developed or the need for drilling was eliminated.

A considerable number of whetstones were found at my site also. While none had holes drilled in them, a few had grooves encircling one end in a manner that indicated they had also been suspended from thongs. It is conjectural to estimate when and why grooves began to replace drilled holes in items such as whetstones, but if indeed this did happen, it could show how a lessened need for drills and drilling might have developed.

Based upon this evidence, or lack of it, I must conclude that little actual drilling was done by the aborigines who occupied this site. Considering the wealth of other tools, especially scrapers, that denote much activity with skins and hides, as well as the heavier tools, celts, adzes and gouges for working wood, I find the scarcity of drills puzzling. The abundance of pottery also helps to confirm that all the other arts and crafts of these early people were practiced at this site. So, why not drilling? And, if it was practiced, where are the drills? And where are the drilled items?

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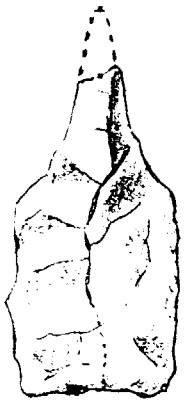

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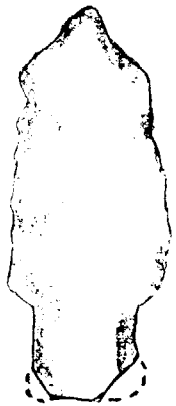

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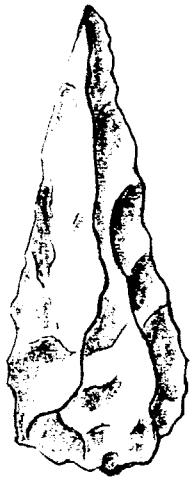

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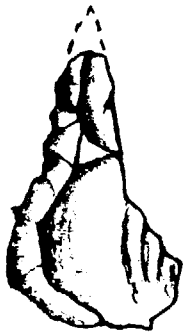

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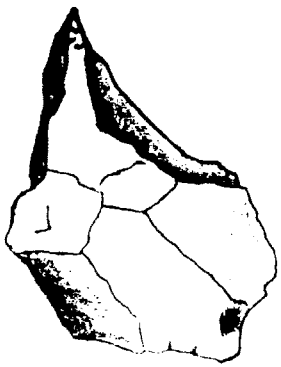
Drills and drill-like implements - Washington Co.



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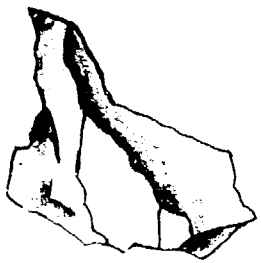

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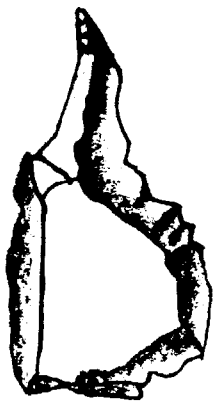

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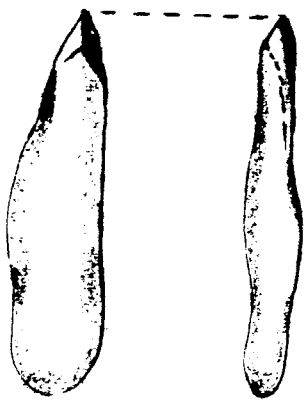

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EDITOR'S PAGE

This past summer has been one of extreme busyness on the part of nearly everyone. Our experts have been up to their ears in excavations at various sites around the state. Your president was on an extended trip to North Dakota, Montana, Colorado, and Wyoming; your Editor, to the southwest: Arizona, New Mexico, California and Idaho. Your First Vice President spent his summer in Newfoundland searching for fossils, and was successful. Others, no doubt, have traveled too.

Very little time was left for preparing answers to your questions. However, one was answered by your President, Eric Lahti, in his article on Pictographs. Question: Are There any Pictographs in Maine? Through Mr. Lahti's efforts, we have some fine pictures to go along with the article. It will be an interesting part of our Fall Program to visit the site of the pictographs.

The answer to the last half of the following question will be published in the Spring Bulletin. Question: How shall we amateurs prepare our collections with an eye to the future? Most importantly, how do we label, number, and catalog the items so that at some future date a Museum can use them?

Daniel Varney, one of our younger members, is presently engaged in marking Indian artifacts for the Redington Museum of Waterville and is seeking approval from the Troop Committee to make this an Eagle Scout project and to continue this marking and recording of artifacts for programming by the Maine State Museum Computer.

Daniel Varney is also a member of the Katakonans, who will be demonstrating Indian dancing on the Fall program. Plan to come and bring a friend.

Another question worthy of consideration was: Will someone compile a comprehensive list of materials used by the early peoples for their lithic artifacts? We are already working on this and it will be published on completion.

The Maine Archaeological Society is a non-profit educational organization with several stated objectives, one of which is to further a more rational public understanding of the aims and limits of archaeological research. Any contributions (tax deductible, of course) will be accepted with appreciation. We wish to thank those who have contributed for their generosity.

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EDITORIAL POLICY

All manuscripts and articles should be submitted to the Editor. Originals will be returned if requested.

Any article not in good taste or plainly written for the sake of controversy will be withheld at the discretion of the Editor and staff.

The author of each article that is printed will receive two copies of the Bulletin in which his work appears.

Deadlines for submission of manuscripts:

February 1st, for Spring issue

September 1st, for Fall issue

Original manuscripts for review for publication should be typewritten and double spaced on one side of each page. Illustrations should be planned for half or full page reproduction; leave 3/4" margins all around. Line illustrations should be done on white paper with reproducible black ink.

Please send exchange bulletins to Editor;

Marshall L. Rice, Sr.
Farm Pond Road
Deer Isle, Me. 04627

By-laws of the Society are being revised and will be discussed at the Spring Meeting.