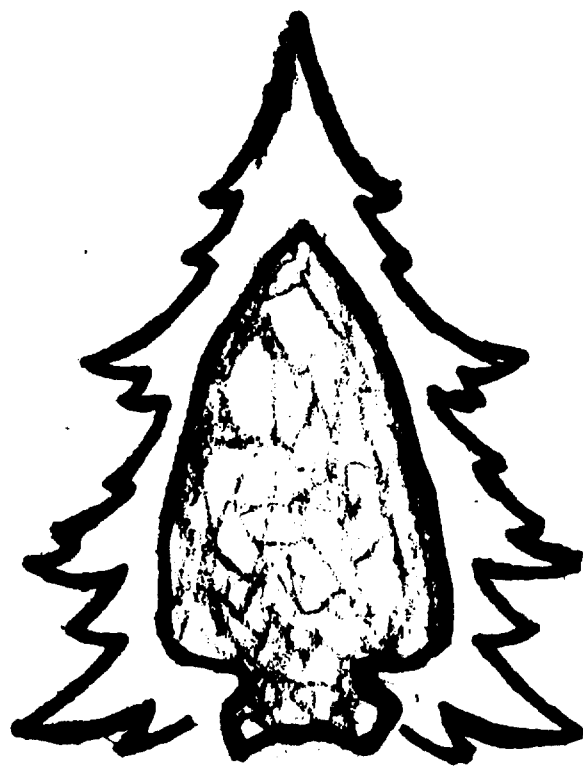


**BULLETIN OF THE
MAINE ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**



**Volume 18 - No. 2
Fall 1978**

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A. L. Barth

Please be advised as of October 22, 1978, there will be a new editor, Eric Lahti. Mrs. Paul (Judy) Husson and Marshall Rice will continue to be on the staff as assistant editors. Material for publication can be sent to any one of us and will reach the proper party. It has been a pleasure to have been your editor and thank you for all your cooperation.

Marshall Rice, Sr.

Don't forget the Eastern States Archaeological Federation meeting, Bellmawr, New Jersey, November 2-3-4-5, 1978 at the Monticello Motor Inn. See your ESAF bulletin for advanced reservation application and program information.

NOTICE OF FALL MEETING

October 22, 1978

Winthrop High School
Winthrop, Maine

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Set up displays and lunch. Bring yours and we will enjoy your company.

1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Executive Meeting

1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Program

Chris Borstall will present a report on the Young Site which is just across the river from Hirundo.

Rich Will will give a report on his work with Robson Bonnichsen on the survey and testing of caves and rock shelters in the Pryor Mts. of southeastern Montana.

HOSTESSES:

Meg Cook
Olive Rice
Sue Lahti
Frances Soper

Refreshments will be served.

DIRECTIONS:

At Augusta exit off Rt. 95, or turnpike, take Rt. 202 to Winthrop. Watch for signs directing to Winthrop High School at blinker light. Bring your artifacts, fossils, geology specimens or articles of historical-archaeological interest. You will be surprised at what your fellow members will enjoy seeing.

Come, bring a friend, he doesn't have to be a member. You are all welcome.

MAINE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

MTA Building, Augusta, Sunday, 23 April 78

Trustee's Meeting.

Present - Soper, Lahti, Cook, L. Varney, Rice, Sanger, Wing, MacKay & MacKay.

Dave Cook to take care of Publicity for Fall Meeting, papers and radio.

Tentative dates: Fall Trustee's meeting at Lahti's 2:00 p.m., Sunday, 10 Sept.
Society meeting at Winthrop High School, 22 Oct.,
possible speaker - Dr. Swauger of the Carnegie Museum.
Bulletin to be mailed by 1 Oct.

Dr. Sanger reported on the progress of the Guidelines Committee. They are hopeful of getting the cooperation of the other New England States so that uniform standards may be set up with an exchange of credits.

Society Meeting.

Displays were provided by: Chris Elliott, minerals; Mrs. Norman Elliot, pottery and stone artifacts; Don Wood, artifacts; Alvin Barth, historic industrial artifacts; Beatrice Harrington, news releases and posters.

Mark Barns of the State Preservation Projects Branch of the National Register of Historic Places spoke on the functions of the National Register and what it can and cannot do. He presented slides of various large and small projects that they have aided across the country.

Dr. Sanger outlined the summer program for the University. A small crew will be continuing the National Park work at Frazer Point and Isle Au Haut. He and three students will be surveying the coast from Eastport to Penobscot Bay with the new 24' lobster boat, reaching off-shore areas they have not been able to get at with small boats. Dr. Bonnichsen will be continuing his survey work of the Munsungan quarry sites.

Anyone planning on attending the June 11 dig at White Island is reminded to be sure to notify Marshall Rice of the fact.

Robert G. MacKay, Secretary

MAINE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

Trustees' Meeting Sunday 10 Sept. 78 at Eric Lahti's, East Madison

Grilled lunch and fresh cider provided by the Lahtis.

Meeting called to order by President Soper.

Present: Soper, K. Varney, Rice, J. Husson, Lahti, Cook, MacKay & MacKay;
by proxy, Wing & P. Husson.

Fall meeting finalized for Winthrop High School, Sunday 22 Oct. 78.

11:00 a.m., open for set-up
12:00 n , tea and coffee available
1:00 p.m., Trustees meeting
1:30 p.m., Regular meeting and speakers

MacKay to check on availability of speakers to report on various
summer activities.

Guide-line committee - no report at this time.

Nominating committee - discussed vacancies and potential officers.
Report to be presented at Fall Meeting.

Suggested that we establish definite times for the spring and fall
Trustees and Society meetings, to be set up for action at next meeting.

Marshall and Olive Rice appointed delegates to ESAF Meeting in NJ.

Hostesses volunteering for the Fall Meeting were: Lahti, Rice and Cook.

Dave Cook to handle publicity for the meeting.

Robert G. MacKay, Secretary

RIDDLES ON ROCK:

NON-ABORIGINAL PETROGLYPHS IN MAINE

by

Edward J. Lenik

Petroglyphs.....what are they and what do they mean? Who carved them, when and why? A petroglyph is an engraving or "carved" design on stone. The term is usually applied to drawings on stone that are of American Indian origin. The designs or elements were executed in a variety of techniques, namely pecking, incising or scratching, excising, rubbing or abrading, or a combination of these methods.

For the past five years, I have been searching out and recording the Indian petroglyphs of the northeastern United States. Petroglyphs are certainly the most common form of rock art in North America and they have been recognized and found by the thousands. The state of Maine is no exception to northeastern rock art distribution as it contains two fine examples of aboriginal rock art; the Machias Petroglyphs originally recorded by Mallery in 1888, and the "Indian Rock" Petroglyphs at Solon, Maine (Mallery 1888, Hall 1969, et.al).

In the course of my research and field work in Maine, I have come across four petroglyph sites that do not appear to be of Indian origin. In my judgement, they were clearly executed by European-Americans. A description of these four sites is presented here, together with my interpretation and analysis of the designs. I do this, however, with a great deal of fear and apprehension. In recent years, a great many carvings or inscriptions have been found in Maine and

elsewhere, the interpretation of which has sparked many new claims and questions into blazing controversies. These new finds are often reported to be the work of Norsemen, Phoenicians, Romans, and most recently, Iberian Celts. However, I make no such claims and leave such interpretation and speculation to others.

Instead, my purpose in recording these sites is the hope that this report will serve as a permanent record of these petroglyphs. It is likely that others will visit these sites in the years to come. Because so little is known about petroglyphs in general, most people are inclined to view them with a great deal of mystery and ascribe to them a greater age than they probably warrant. ~~This~~, the passage of time, and the forces of nature will serve to obscure the newness of the carvings at these sites, and they may be interpreted as "old" or aboriginal which they are not.

In recent years, we have seen an explosion of interest in rock art and particularly "inscriptions" in the northeast. Many amateur enthusiasts are "collecting" and recording these fascinating sites. This increased activity has brought with it many problems such as vandalism, fraudulent claims and wild interpretations. However, it has also brought an increase in knowledge in that previously unrecorded rock art sites have been added to our inventory. This report is the result of the interest and serious dedication of several rock art enthusiasts.

The Monmouth Stone (Figure 1):

The Monmouth Stone was found in 1976 about 1.8 miles due east

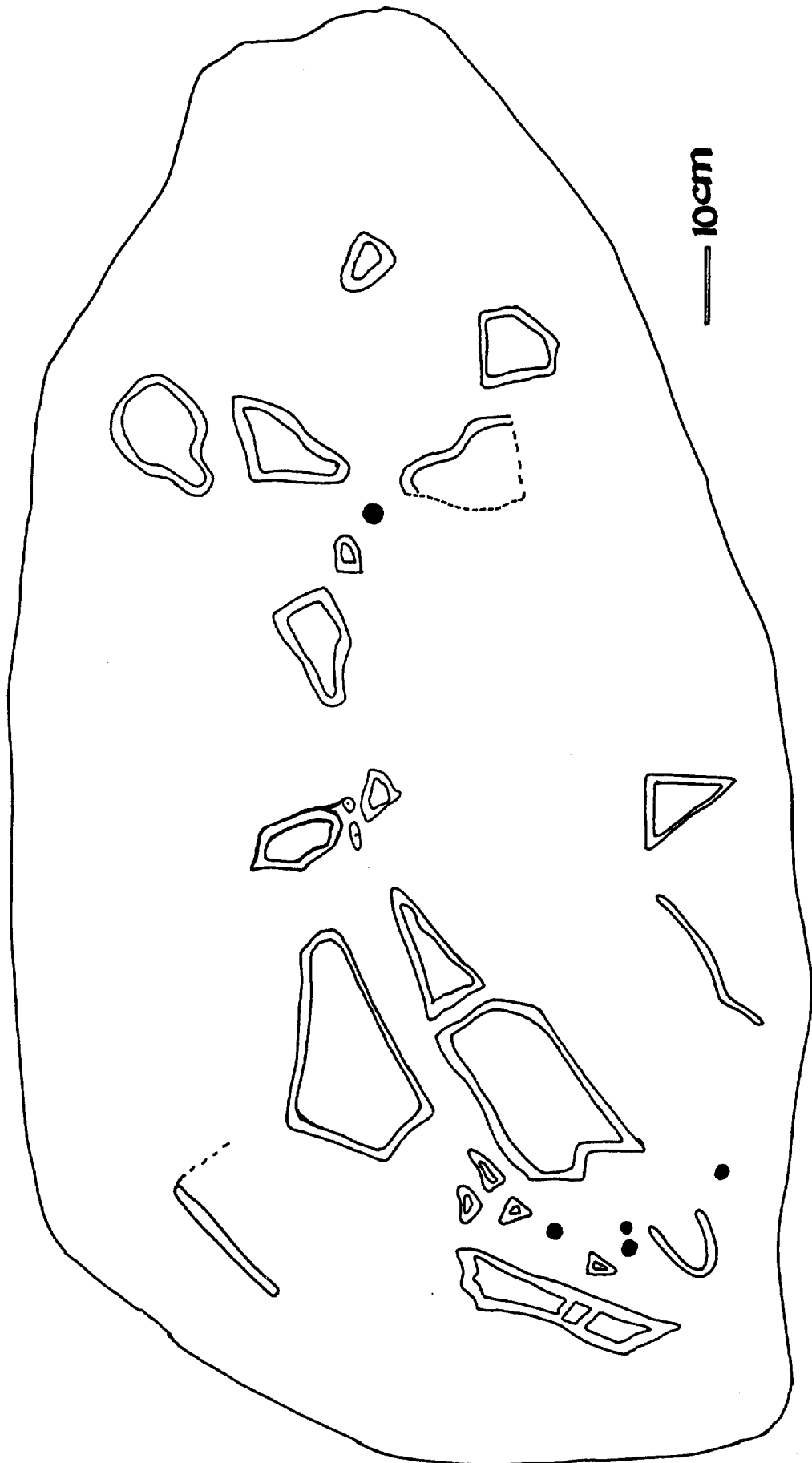


Figure 1: The Monmouth Stone

from the junction of highway routes 132 and 135 in the village of Monmouth, Maine. It was originally on top of a ridge overlooking Lake Annabesacook and Lake Cobbosseecontee (Nichols 1976). However, the stone was moved, and is presently in front of the Monmouth Museum on Main Street.

The designs or symbols have been carved into a boulder which measures 1 meter in height, 1.9 meters in length and 1.3 meters in width. This quartzose sandstone boulder is light in color and has a fine-grained texture. Fungus and lichen cover some parts of the stone and there is evidence of disintegration fractures caused by weathering.

The designs on the stone appear to have been cut with metal tools with some attempt to smooth and polish the grooves. Despite this, however, some punch marks are clearly visible in several of the grooves. In general, the designs were cut clearly and boldly, in some cases to a depth of 17 mm.

The interpretation of the designs on this stone is purely speculative. The most common thought seems to be that it represents a "map" which depicts such features as islands, coves, and shoreline. Other interpretations are indeed possible and we shall never know its original intent. Nevertheless, these designs are totally unlike any known aboriginal petroglyphs in the northeast.

The Devil's Head Petroglyph (Figure 2):

This petroglyph is located on top of a mountain peak called "Devil's Head" in the town of Harmony, Maine. This mountain has an elevation of 260 meters (860 feet) from which an observer can have an excellent view of Great Moose Lake to the south.

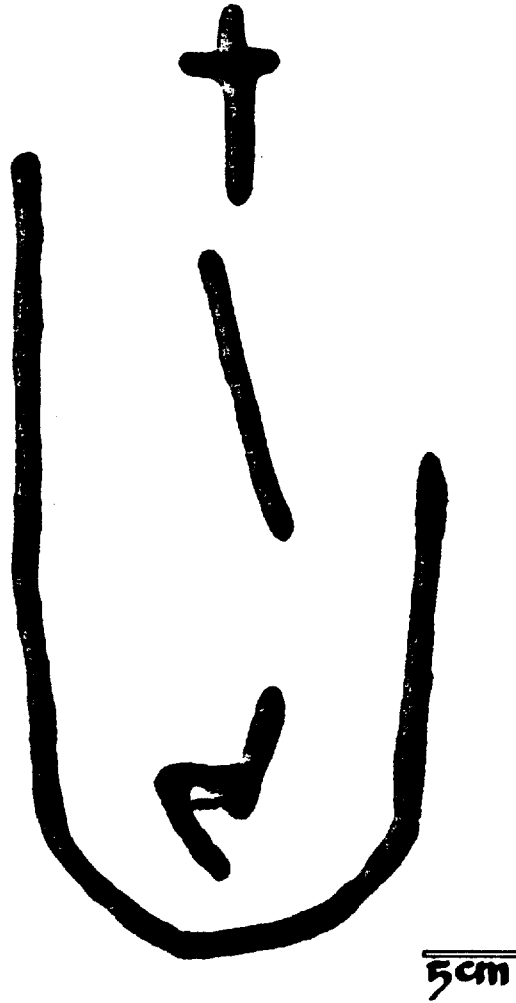


Figure 2: The Devil's Head Petroglyph

There are four designs carved into the granite ledge, very close to the edge of the cliff. The designs have been deeply incised into the rock and are protected to some extent from the elements by an overhanging boulder of granite. Approximately half way down the south face of the cliff is a rockshelter created by a natural overhanging granite boulder.

The Devil's Head Petroglyph was clearly executed with metal tools. The "cross" design was deeply cut into the rock ledge to a depth of 45 mm., as was the "diagonal line" which was 40 mm. deep. The third symbol can be described as a "double comma" which has been cut to a depth of 4-5 mm. All three symbols are enclosed by an open ended loop which varies in depth from 2-3 mm. The petroglyph faces to the south in the direction of Great Moose Lake.

There is considerable evidence of granite quarrying on top of Devil's Head Mountain. Cut blocks of stone and drill marks can be found all through the area. Tradition indicates that this granite quarry was in operation from around 1870 to 1900 (Briggs 1977). It is very likely that the petroglyph was carved at some time during this period. Again, we can only speculate regarding its meaning or purpose. Perhaps it was carved by a lone quarry worker for some personal or superstitious reason. The difficulties involved in the carving of the Devil's Head granite would seem to indicate a strong desire by someone to leave a permanent record here.

The area today is remote, wooded, and visited only by an occasional hunter.

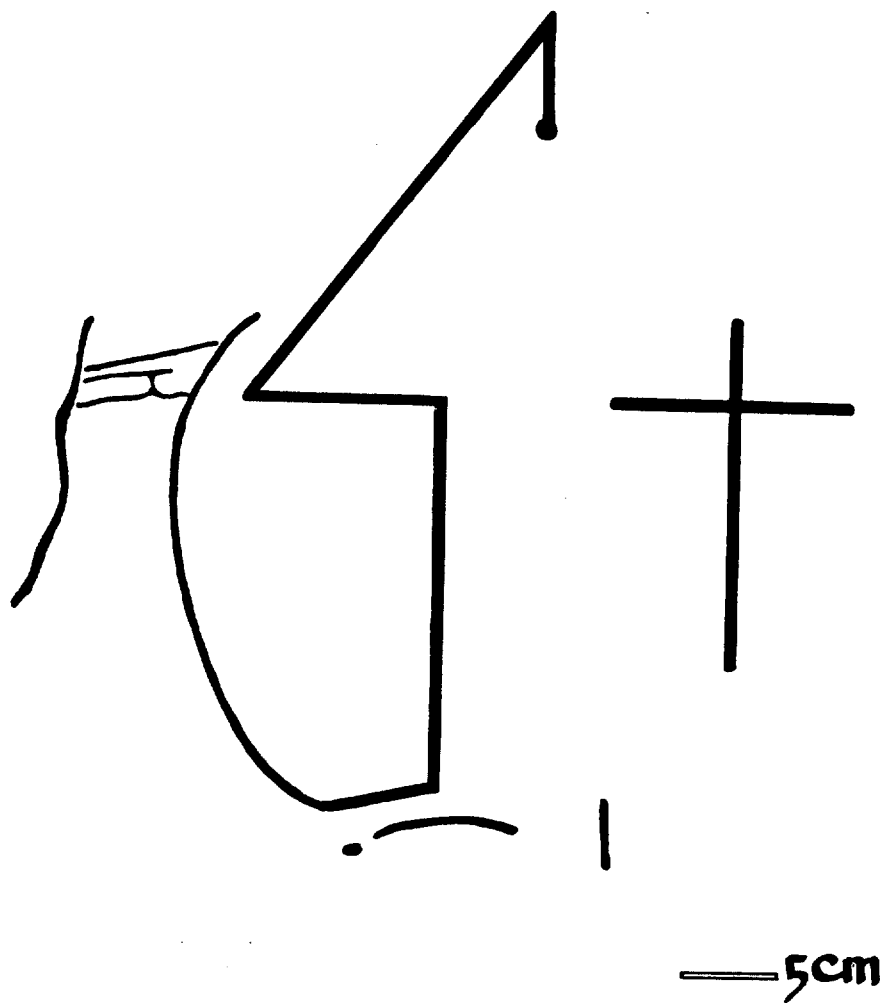


Figure 3: The Map Stone Petroglyph

The Map Stone Petroglyph (Figure 3):

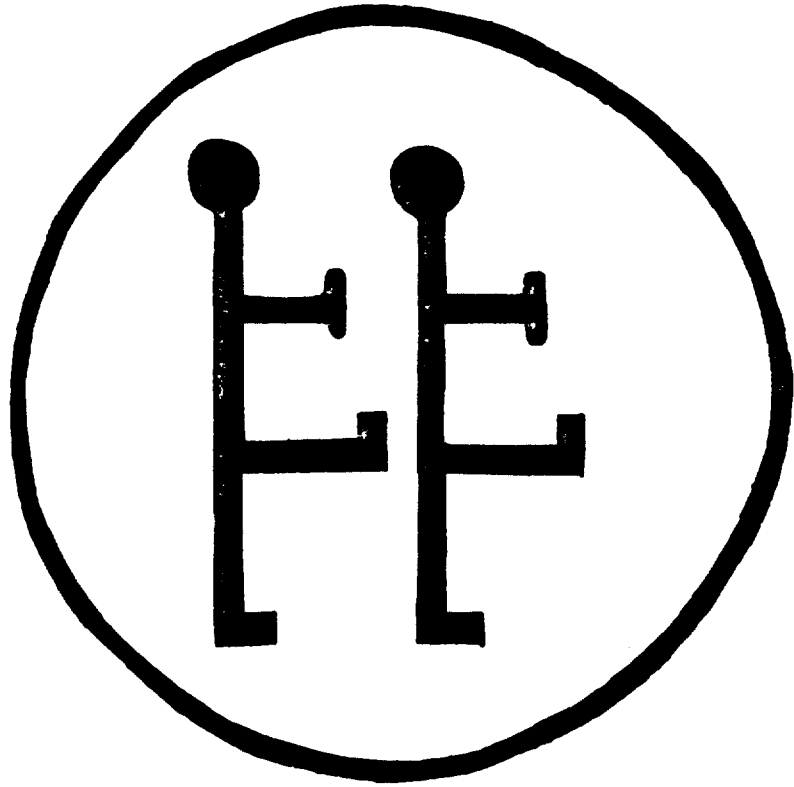
The existence of this petroglyph has been known for quite some time and was originally reported to the New England Antiquities Research Association in the 1960's. It is located off Freeman Street in York Beach, Maine, between the rear of a cottage and the ocean beach. It was dubbed the "Map Stone" petroglyph because most viewers believe it resembles such an item.

The designs of this petroglyph have been carved on the easterly face of a free-standing granite boulder which is 5 meters in height. This boulder contains white quartz veins and is unlike the granite beds and ledges which surround it. The designs were cut into the rock with metal tools. In fact, the design in the center and the "cross" on the right were probably executed with the aid of a straight edge. A conical punched hole measuring 10 mm in diameter and 3.5 mm deep is visible at the end of the central design. The designs at the left, shown in the drawing, appear to have been executed in a haphazard or free-style manner.

The meaning or purpose of this carving is unknown. It is also unlike any known aboriginal petroglyphs in the northeast.

The Wells Beach Petroglyph (Figure 4):

This petroglyph was discovered in 1952 by Captain August L. Guest along the rocky shore in Wells Beach, Maine. It consists of several designs cut into a granite boulder which measures 120 cm long, 90 cm wide and 50 cm thick. The designs on the stone were originally face-down along the shore and the stone was apparently turned over by the



7-19

6cm

Figure 4: The Wells Beach Petroglyph

force of a hurricane which occurred in November, 1952, thus leading to its discovery (Chase 1977).

The side of the boulder containing the carved designs has a brown discoloration which is not in evidence on the other sides, thus lending weight to the conclusion that the designs were originally face down.

The Wells Beach Petroglyph was well made, probably with metal tools. The incised "circle" is nearly perfect, and the two anthropomorphic figures are exactly alike. The "goose-stepping" figures have perfectly rounded heads which were cut out of the rock. The numbers "7-19" underneath the encircled figures were also carved into the stone.

It is reported that a hotel was once located near the site where the petroglyph was found. The hotel was "washed away" by storms around 1900 and there is some feeling that stone with its carved designs may have been a property marker (Chase 1977). In any event, it is clearly non-aboriginal in origin. The stone has been moved from its original site and presently decorates the lawn of a private home.

Edward J. Lenik
February 1978

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PROJECT HERITAGE-DEFENCE

During the past few months the public has taken advantage of several opportunities to become more familiar with the project. Initially, an exhibit opened at the Maine State Museum (see newsletter January 1978). The exhibit, which is still on-going (the MSM is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday; 9 am - 4 pm; Tuesday and Thursday; 9 am - 8 pm, and Saturday and Sunday; 1 pm - 4 pm) allows the visitor an opportunity to examine artifact recovered from Stockton Harbor. In addition, interpretations are presented to explain the historical and cultural significance of the DEFENCE.

In the recent past, television has added to the PHR publicity. First was a thirty minute documentary entitled "Sealog DEFENCE". It was produced by the Maine Public Broadcasting Network (MPBN) for distribution to educational television stations throughout Maine. Second was the Sunday night television program Tangents (WCSH-TV Channel 6). In this hour long program entitled "Archaeology in Maine" both the Turner Farm Site (a series of terrestrial sites on North Haven) was discussed by museum archaeologist Dr. Bruce J. Bourque and conservation of recoveries from the DEFENCE were discussed in the second segment of the show.

In future months the Museum would like to encourage use of the two films mentioned here (MPBN's Sealog DEFENCE and WCSH's Archaeology in Maine). Persons interested in viewing these video cassetts should contact Mr. Ron Kley, % the Maine State Museum, State House, Augusta, Maine 04333 (tel. 289-2301).

REFLECTION

Scraping away a thin layer of dirt revealed a dull, charred, carom-shaped stone with a hole in the middle. Under other circumstances, the sixteen year old boy may have only given a passing thought to this strangely shaped object, or used it as a skipping stone, but this day was different. There, surrounded by archaeologists from different lands, with the summer slowly sinking into the distant outline of Labrador, this small round artifact took on a special significance.

The discovery of the spindle whorl was the product of an extensive search. It was conclusive evidence supporting the long believed theory that the Vikings had landed in North America a full five hundred years prior to the "discovery" by Christopher Columbus.

Norse sagas had been translated and followed. Archaeologists from the Scandinavian and North American countries had found and discovered maps and rune stones. Then in the early 1960's -- Helge and Annestine Ingstad traced by sailing the speculated route of the Northland adventures to the Northern tip of Newfoundland. At Lanse Aux Meadows, diggings revealed the foundations of long destroyed homes. Carbon-dating confirmed the age of charcoal from the fire-places. The descriptions were typically Norse. A sauna-type building and a smithy for forging iron presented a typical Norse environment unlike any of the early Indian or Eskimo cultures. What was needed was an object; an artifact which could be undeniably connected with the European seafarers.

The spindle whorl provided that evidence. Carved from soapstone, this rudimentary fly wheel was used in the process of spinning wool to yarn. It was a typical Norse utensil commonly found in the homes of Scandinavia, Iceland, and Greenland at approximately 1000 A.D. Yarn garments were unknown to the natives of this Canadian island. Certain inferences were then deduced by the discovery.

Women came on these voyages as the Norse men did not traditionally do the spinning-type work. Sheep were brought on this early expedition. The presence of both the women and sheep give credence to the theory that the settlement was permanent rather than temporary. The iron forge found was possibly the first in North America; and remnants of the iron slag still remain.

The berries found are even today made into delicious wines by local inhabitants of the fishing villages -- and a reason for the name of this new land -- Vineland.

The Vikings vanished and left only stories which changed to memories; which changed to unproven theories until this rediscovery some one thousand years later. The spindle whorl, small and unobstrusive, has provided another piece to the puzzle of the history of man.

Other myths wait for their discovery. Who knows when in a different time and place, another boy will stoop to pick up a skipping stone and open the door to another of this world's many mysteries.

Anthony W. Beardsley

AN EARLY MILL SITE IN BETHEL

Alvin L. Barth
Gould Academy

ABSTRACT

Excavation of an 18th-19th century industrial site on Mill Brook, in Bethel, exemplifies the wide range and vast quantity of material available for late historical site excavations. The archaeological work is supplemented by oral history, records, photographs, and other materials gathered by the Bethel Historical Society to provide a partial reconstruction of events at the site. It is an opportunity to introduce high school students to the study of archaeology, and stresses the importance and usefulness of the citizen or amateur archaeologist.

In the spring of 1976, students at Gould Academy began the excavation of a mill foundation located in the 18th-19th century manufacturing district of Bethel. The location, on Mill Brook, is just below an extensive dry-wall construction stone dam, and represents the fieldwork of an archaeology term course offered at the Academy that spring. Since that time, work has continued at odd intervals through student efforts in independent study and Senior May Projects, and again as a term course in the fall of 1977. It is planned to continue to offer a fall term archaeology course each year. The work at the site has been coordinated with the Bethel Historical Society, which has, and is continuing to compile the written, oral and photographic history of the same region and the same period.

Figure 1 shows the general outline of the mill site and the location of the current excavation. Table 1 lists, in chronological order, many of the major historical events at this site, and at a downstream dam site that has all but been destroyed by extensive road, bridge and sewer constructions.

An initial survey of the area was carried out, and the extensive visible foundations and artifacts littering the ground were most encouraging. It was decided to proceed, and permission to excavate was obtained from the Alliance Corporation, owners of the Bethel Inn property on which the site is located.

The area was first cleared of underbrush and small trees so that the dam and the foundations could be surveyed, photographed and a site map drawn. Two test pits were then dug in two separate foundations, and the abundance of metallic and glass objects found in the lower foundation test pit dictated that work should begin there.

A grid system of five-foot squares was set up orientated to the foundation walls and the excavation was begun. The squares were excavated by shovel and trowel and the dirt screened for smaller objects. Extensive tree roots and some large trees hampered, somewhat, the digging. No discernible layering was evident, rather a grading from humus-rich, dark soil at the surface, down to sterile silty-sand at various depths of one to two feet was noted, depending on the area excavated.

Artifacts were found scattered on the surface, and in great abundance throughout the dig. The great number of objects is to be expected from a historical site that was used so recently and for so many different purposes. In addition, there has not been sufficient time for many objects to completely deteriorate in the damp, acid soil. The artifacts found fall into four broad classes: metallic, glass, leather, and wood. They can be further classified by use, such as structural components, mill machinery, tools, and various domestic or personal objects. The various photographs provide examples of some of the more interesting artifacts found to date.

Metallic

Nails - including homemade and machine-made square and 20th century wire types, sizes range from 2cm to 20cm in length and would be used for all phases of building construction.

Bolts - both square and round, hand made to modern, and were used for building construction, as well as for securing machinery to the floor.

Machinery parts - bushings, connecting rods, tubwheel parts, wheels, etc. - all the paraphernalia from different mills.

Tools - including many files, an axe head, and a bronze-tipped soldering iron. These would be typical of those used to sharpen saws and to seal "tin-cans".

"Tin Plate" - tin clad steel sheet cut into circular lids used in making cans for produce, probably from the corn factory.

Stove parts - such as stove legs, pipe, grate pieces, and door frames.

Odds and ends - including a spoon, coins (1908 Indian cent, 1910 Lincoln cent and a 1914 Canadian cent), pins, door springs and hinges.

Glass and Pottery

Bottles, cups, glasses, window glass, lamp chimneys, soda bottles with spring caps, bowls, and pots. Some bottles have been melted, evidence of one or more fires at the site. The starch factory was said to have burned sometime in the 1860's.

Wood

Wood parts are few as the site is very wet and decay is rapid. One steel and wooden wheel was found, possibly used to transfer power through a belt. Other wooden artifacts include pieces of charred timber attached to bolts, again evidence of the starch factory fire, or possibly the burning of the remains of a building after it was torn down.

Domestic or Personal Objects

These include buttons, pins, shoe pieces and the coins, all typical of the day-to-day things workers might leave behind, or lose.

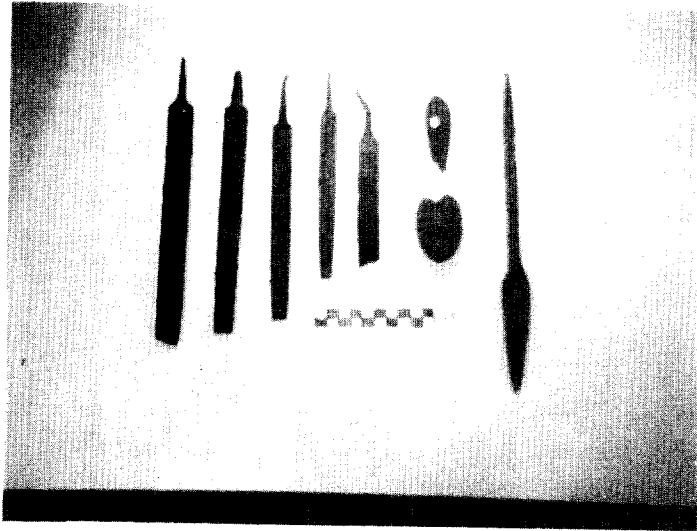
Little attempt has been made, at this point, to identify and date the artifacts, and this is partially due to the lack of reference material at Gould. An effort to accumulate a first-rate reference library specifically designed for archaeology and historical archaeological research is being planned.

In summary, the dig has unearthed material consistent with the known history of the site and further work should clarify the picture and provide a good look into one area of Bethel's past. We look forward to many years of work at the site, and would welcome any and all help, criticism and ideas from those familiar with this type of work.

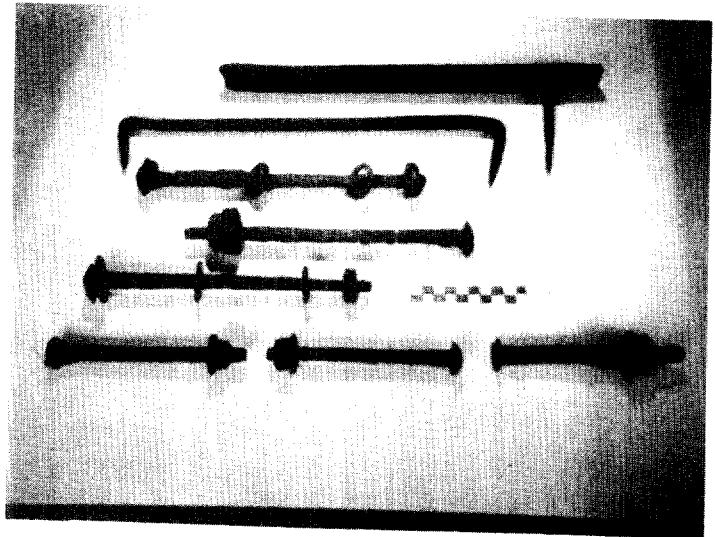
TABLE L

Chronology of the Mill Brook Sites

- 1774 Captain Joseph Twichell of Sherbourn, Massachusetts, purchased the mill lot.
- 1774 Eleazor Twichell, his son, built a saw mill upstream followed by a grist mill at the lower dam.
- 1781 Map shows two mill ponds and dams. No buildings are shown or identified.
- 1789 Eleazor Twichell introduces tub wheels.
- 1814 Eleazor Twichell built a carding and clothing mill at the site of the Twichell saw mill.
- 1831 Upper mills purchased by Jessie and Moses Cross.
- 1835 Map shows Twichell's grist mill on lower pond.
- 1840 Eber Clough purchased the wool processing mill and built a starch factory and shingle mill "at the time of the 1855 Maine Register."
- 1841 Robert A. Chapman acquired property and repaired the upper dam.
- 1858 Map shows a starch and fulling mill at the upper dam, and a grist and saw mill at the lower dam.
- 1870's Eber Clough was producing spool stuffs and salt boxes.
- 1871 George Locke acquired upper dam property.
- 1880 Map shows a birch and stave mill at the upper dam, and a sawmill and tannery at the lower dam.
- 1886 - Map shows a corn factory at the upper site and a sawmill at the lower site.
1887
- 1890's Eben Kilborn purchased the Clough mill, rebuilding the dam. Issac Morrill later owned this structure and the original Twichell grist mill.
- 1904 Both mills were producing wood products.
- 1920's Upper dam buildings used for storage by the Bethel Inn.
- 1936 Dam and last buildings destroyed by flood.



l-r Files, spoon, soldering iron



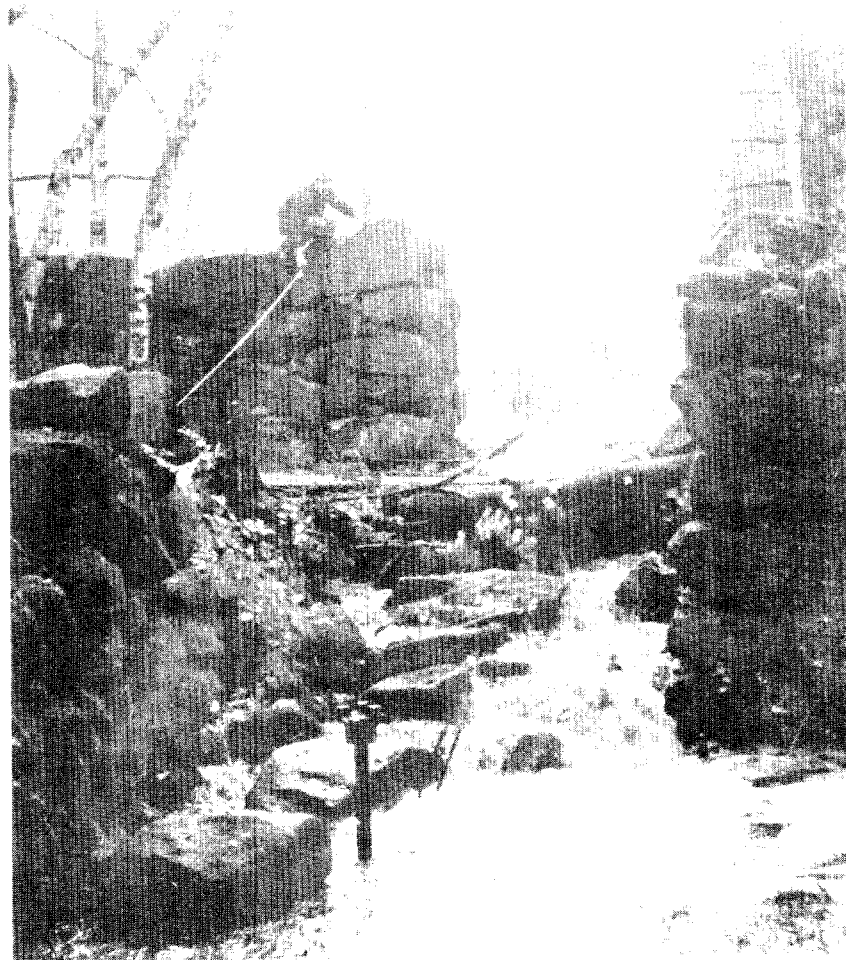
Structural parts



l-r bluing bottle, cup, Carter's ink bottle, brown whiskey bottle, root beer bottle.



The mill site in the 1890's. The building shown is on the site of the current dig.



The spillway and gear left from one of the tubwheels.

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.

August 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:

* * * * *

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