

New York State Archeological Association

THE BULLETIN

August 1956

Number 7

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OCTOBER DATE SET FOR ANNUAL MEETING
OF EASTERN STATES ARCHEOLOGICAL FEDERATION

Members of the New York State Archeological Association, who also are members of the Federation, are reminded that this year's annual meeting is scheduled to be held at Trenton N. J., on Saturday and Sunday, October 27 and 28, C. A. Weslager, president of the federation, who announced the forthcoming meeting, stated that it will coincide with the 25th anniversary of the New Jersey Society, and that plans are being outlined to make the occasion commemorative and worthy of big attendance.

Tentative plans call for registration and a program of papers at the Stacy Trent Hotel on Saturday morning, lunch at the Princeton Inn in Princeton. The afternoon's program, to be devoted primarily to business and reports by member organizations, is to continue at Princeton. A workshop discussion is to be held pertaining to these questions: (a) How can a state archeological society improve its financial position? (b) What are the most worthy ways in which a state archeological society can expend its funds? There will be an opportunity to visit the Princeton campus and archeological and historic sites.

A nationally prominent scientific figure will address the meeting at the silver anniversary dinner to be held Saturday evening at the Stacy Trent, Sunday's meeting will include a visit of the special Indian exhibit at the State Museum. Adjournment will be at 4:00 P. M.

Trenton may be reached by the Pennsylvania R. R., about 30 miles from Philadelphia, 60 miles from New York. The New Jersey Turnpike provides easy access for the motorist, as does the eastern extension of the Pennsylvania Turnpike.

Further details as to hotels, etc., will be made available to chapter secretaries in September. In the meantime it is suggested that you make plans to attend.

N.Y.S.A.A ANNUAL MEETING, APRIL 14, 1956

The annual meeting was held at the New York State Education Building, Albany. The meeting program:

MORNING

Business Meeting William A. Ritchie, Presiding

AFTERNOON

William S. Cornwell, Presiding

"Recent Work at the Fort Hill Site near LeRoy, N. Y." Alfred K. Guthe,
Lewis H. Morgan Chapter

"Archeological Evidence of the Mask Among the Seneca" Charles F. Wray,
Lewis H. Morgan Chapter

"The Snook Kill Site, Saratoga Co., N. Y." William H. Rice,
Auringer-Seelye Chapter

"Two Possible Coeval Lamokoid Sites Near Ossining, N. Y. " Louis A. Brennen,
Mid-Hudson Chapter

"Seventeenth Century Graves at Montauk, Long Island, N. Y." Roy Latham,
Long Island Chapter

"A Program of Archeological Research on Western Long Island" Ralph Solecki,
Long Island Chapter

Group Discussion: "Practical Ways of Achieving Cooperation Between Professional and Non-
Professional Archeologists"..... Marian E. White,
Chairman

EVENING

"Ethnological Sources on the Beginnings of the Iroquois Confederacy"
William N. Fenton, New York State
Museum and Science Service

THE NEXT ISSUE will be devoted exclusively to the proceedings, chapter and officers' reports presented at the annual meeting, as well as some of the papers which were read.

The McClintock Burial Site¹

Albert J. Hoffman

Morgan Chapter

This is a report of an historic Iroquois burial site located on the farm owned by Mr. Samuel McClintock in the township of East Bloomfield, Ontario County, New York. It is situated just west of the junction of Cherry Street and the Victor-Holcomb road (New York Route 64). The burial site is located immediately southwest of an Iroquois village site (Can 20-1). The village appears to have contained about 20 houses scattered over a large area approximately 10 acres in size. The ground occupied by the village lies mostly north of Cherry Street and east of Route 64. The cemetery is located south of Cherry Street and west of Route 64. The excavation of 32 graves and 5 fire pits was conducted by the author, John A. Hoffman, Lester Bill, Clarence Bill and Clarence Carpenter between March 15 to April 3, 1953.

The burials found were those of 22 adults and 10 children. For the most part it was impossible to determine the sex of the individuals due to the poor state of preservation of the bones. All had been interred laterally recumbently in various degrees of flexion. None were extended. Concerning those for which data definitely could be obtained, the bodies (14 observations) were facing as follows: south, 9 (64.3%); north, 3 (21.47%); east, 2 (14.3%). The superior surfaces of the skulls (15 observations) were oriented as follows: east, 12 (80%); west, 2 (13.3%); south, 1 (6.7%). The average depth of the burials was 30 inches. The graves were overlain with dark layers of humus 2 to 3 inches thick. The soil in the graves was sandy clay mixed with charcoal. In some there was evidence of bark lining or mat at the bottom; one mat was still intact.

A total of 64 different kinds of artifacts were found in the graves. A brass or copper kettle was present in each of 16 graves. They measured 3 to 5 inches in height and 5 to 8 inches in diameter. The following items were present in or near these kettles: wooden ladle, 4 (1 with carved bear's head handle); gourd ladle; pewter spoon; iron knife, 4 in 3 kettles; iron shears; iron awl; iron nails, 16 in 1 kettle; brass trigger guard; pottery jar; human effigy pipe; whetstone; stone arrow point; red paint; splint basket; bast tump line; porcupine teeth; bear tooth; deer ribs; beaver hair; squash cake, 2 in 2 kettles; corn husk; squash seeds, 4 kettles; hickory nuts; gourd seeds; berry seeds, beechnuts.

1. An original contribution

Elsewhere in the graves the following artifacts were found: round red beads, seven graves (183 in one grave); red, yellow and blue beads, two graves; round black beads, three graves (10 in one grave, 44 in a second); round red and blue beads, two graves; human effigy pipe, two graves; otter effigy pipe; ring bowl pipe, three graves; trumpet pipe, two graves; kaolin pipe; Jesuit ring, 3 (2 in one grave); iron knife, 14 in nine graves; iron awl; iron adze; iron nails, 5 in three graves; iron shears; iron axe, four graves; iron spring; iron bracelet; file; chisel; musket barrel, 50 inches long; lead buckshot; lead musket ball, two graves (1 in the abdominal cavity of one skeleton); snuff box; hawk bell; brass button; section of brass pipe, two graves; strike-a-light, 3 in two graves; whetstone, 2 in one grave; gun flint; paint box; red paint, four graves; stone arrow points, 13 in one grave; flint arrow point on shaft; flint arrow or gun blanks, 7 in one grave; brass arrow point on shaft; wooden arrow point, 2 in one grave; cord bag; woolen blanket; turtle shell; beaver jaw; turtle rattle; pottery sherds, 4 pieces in two graves; deer hair.

The location of these artifacts, including kettles and contents, with respect to the skeletons was as follows: front of face, 55%; behind skull, 16.4%; otherwise near skull, 17.8%; between face and knees in front, 38.4%; behind pelvis or near hip bones, 17.8%; at feet, 2.7%; in hand, 1.4% (the otter effigy pipe).

The fire pits were 24 - 36 inches deep and 24 - 54 inches in diameter. In profile they showed 2 - 3 inches of top soil, then 5 - 7 inches of humus beneath which was grey ash mixed with firestones and animal bones. In some pits bands of dark earth were present in the ash material. A few scraps of brass, iron and unmarked pottery sherds also were found in them.

The dating of this site is an interesting problem. The fact that all the burials were flexed and that the tops of the heads were oriented toward the east in 80% of burials would seem to indicate a date no later than 1650. On the other hand, the presence of round red and black beads, human effigy pipes, the lack of pottery except for one small jar all point to the period of 1650 - 1675 or even later. All of the rest of the artifacts appear consistent with burials between 1650 and 1687. So far as we now know this is a single cemetery probably associated with the nearby village site. Since the village itself has not been excavated, the association, of course, has not been proved. Were this cemetery and village site remote from other sites we would be inclined to date it during the 1650-1675 period, the time of existence of the Dann and Marsh sites. The fact is, however, that both the Beal and Bunce sites are not far away, the former being about a 1/4 mile to the west, the latter perhaps the same distance to the east. The Boughton Hill site is about 1 mile due north. These sites date from the period of 1675 - 1687. Much of the material recovered from both the Boughton Hill and Beal sites resembles that in the McClintock burial site. Also, historically, it is known there were smaller outlying villages associated with Boughton Hill. Until further evidence is obtained to the contrary, perhaps by

excavation of the village site, we provisionally assign the McClintock burial site to the 1650 - 1687 period with the suggestion that it was part of a village related to Boughton Hill.

Program for Archeological Research on Western
Long Island¹

Ralph S. Solecki

Long Island Chapter

After a lapse of several years from Long Island archeology, during which time I have been engaged in work elsewhere, I will endeavor to make the results of my field work on western Long Island available to the interested. It will take a while to accomplish this.

Although Carlyle Smith has incorporated into his publication "The Archeology of Coastal New York"² many of the salient points of this work, there still remain the site reports and descriptions to be published in full. These site reports will give added substance to Smith's work. For Smith to attempt to include full site reports in his book would have necessitated a volume several times its present thickness, with a probable delay in publication.

In working up the site reports, we will be able to put Dr. Smith's scheme for the archeology of Long Island to the test. While there will be much undoubted substantiation, there will be some differences, if progress in research is to assert itself. For instance, as a case in point, I believe that the inclusion of the Pantigo site on eastern Long Island in the so-called Shantok "aspect" is a bit awry. The material from Fort Corchaug, although also on eastern Long Island, does not appear to be too much related, in my mind, to Pantigo at all. Fort Corchaug contains an exotic Connecticut importation, a foreign aboriginal element, dating from the early part of the 17th century. Pantigo, questionably dated from the latter part of the 17th century or even perhaps from the middle of the 18th century, is well in the realm of history, and may be as much as 100 years later than Fort Corchaug. A searching scrutiny of the early colonial records, of which there seem to be enough, will give us the proper historical perspective needed here on the movements of the aboriginal populations during these late time periods. I may add here that these populations became less and less pure with the importation of negro slaves during the years, and as the original Indians succumbed to the new diseases and vices against which they had no protection. To include a historically known people within the rubric of a system such

1. Presented at the N.Y.S.A.A. annual meeting, 14 April 1956

2. Anthropol Papers, Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist., 43; Pt 2, 1950

as the McKern classification, a non-historic taxonomic compartmentalization is unreal. Even with the inclusion of developmental stages, it appears not to be flexible enough for our use. In short, it seems to me that this system, which finds favor only in the Northeast, is a kind of straight-jacket, and requires too many hair splitting decisions, tending to obfuscate rather than clarify what we set out to do. Our greatest drawback is the lack of well stratified sites on western Long Island for clear cut analysis.

Concerning recent archeological work on western Long Island, we have the activity of a small hard core of non-professional or "amateur" archeologists, including Julius Lopez and Stanley Wisniewski of Flushing and Matt Schreiner of College Point. This group, with which I am able to cooperate and advise on a time to time basis at present, is keenly interested in the archeology as it pertains to its area. They meet informally to discuss problems of mutual concern at each other's homes, in addition to excavating at local sites during free days, generally Saturday or Sunday, weather permitting. Currently they are making large scale tests at a site in the Pelham Bay area, the Bronx, and at a site in Bayside, Queens. It is significant to note that these sites are within the area of Greater New York. It might come as a surprise to people that in a city of 8 million people there is archeological activity to be found. Julius Lopez has prepared an article on researches in College Point which is to be published in the Connecticut Archeological Bulletin. The possibility of issuing site reports under joint authorship has been under consideration, a task to be taken up in the future.

The various sites on western Long Island were investigated at one time or another by us over a span of time covering some 24 years, beginning when we were hardly out of grammar school. We have watched archeological sites fall before progress and expansion of the city. The La Guardia airport, the Belt Parkway and other enterprises and improvements encroached upon and finally swallowed the sites we knew as boys, hardly before we were able to learn the techniques for recording them. The task before me is to sift the information I have made record of in my notebooks, and to issue in comprehensive manner what available data is contained therein. It must be understood that much of the data were obtained through surface surveys, and under these circumstances not quite as interesting as excavated material. Still, some excavation work had been done, although sporadic and sampling in nature. This was done principally at North Beach, Bayside and College Point. These sites, in addition to others, have been touched upon by Smith in his publication, but they merit a full report in view of the fact that these sites are no more, and that more details can be given.

With regard to the final disposition of the artifactual remains from western Long Island, no commitments have been definitely made. I have felt that the principal institutions such as the Smithsonian Institution and the American Museum of Natural History would be excellent repositories. In fact, I have already divided the Fort Corchaug material which I described in the Connecticut

Archeological Society Bulletin No. 24, between these two institutions with a third smaller sample to the Yale Peabody Museum. Material recovered from Fort Massapeag in Nassau County was given to the American Museum of Natural History. Since this distribution I have learned that the Long Island chapter of this Association is seriously considering, now that the wherewith has been found, building an archeological museum in Southold on eastern Long Island. It would be an excellent idea to deposit local material in this proposed repository.

To sum up, archeological work on western Long Island, at best never done under ideal field conditions in the past, is on its last legs as sites become fewer. Our concern is to make the material already recovered, with the site data, available to other students of prehistory. This cannot be done overnight, but as the saying goes, where there is a will there is a way, and so to completion.

ARCHEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE OF THE MASK AMONG THE SENECA¹

Charles F. Wray

Morgan Chapter

One of the many challenging problems in anthropology is the attempt to trace back into archeological times certain customs and practices of primitive cultures. One of the most interesting of these is the use of the false face mask by the masked medicine societies of the Iroquois. Still in existence today, the roots of this society go back at least to colonial times. How far back we can actually trace it will depend on our discovery and recognition of actual fragments of masks, of miniature replicas of masks known as maskets, and of representations of the mask in the form of faces on pipes, combs, pottery, and wooden tools.

Documentary records tell us that the mask was in use by the Hurons as early as 1616, having been observed by Champlain. Sagard corroborates this in 1623, and the Jesuit Relations make mention of them in 1636. The Relations fail to mention the use of the mask by the New York Iroquois. It isn't until 1687 that a member of Denonville's expedition actually reports their presence on the Seneca towns destroyed by that military venture.

In his Masked Medicine Societies of the Iroquois, Fenton lists some 13 classifications of masks reported by his informants: 1. crooked mouth, 2. straight-lipped, 3. spoon-lipped, 4. hanging mouth, 5. protruding tongue, 6. smiling, 7. whistler or blowing, 8. divided, 9. long-nose, 10. horned, 11. Animal, 12. Blind and 13. husk face.

1. Presented at the N.Y.S.A.A. annual meeting, 14 April, 1956.

The most convincing evidence of the presence of the mask in early historic Seneca time is the masket. Found both in the refuse and in burials, the masket most commonly is from 1 - 2 inches in length and from 1/2 - 1 inch in width and usually consist of a face with deep set eyes, a large nose, and a prominent puckered or straight-lipped mouth. They were made from stone, antler and shell. Before 1700 those made of stone are commonly of red slate. After 1700, catlinite imported from Minnesota and the Dakotas became the most used material. Maskets are present on all the early historic Seneca sites. They were most abundant during the Dutch Hollow and Factory Hollow time (1600). These early maskets fall into two of Fenton's mask types - the straight lipped and the whistling or blowing mask types.

Smoking pipes often were decorated with faces, both animal and human-like. These invariably face the smoker. They first appear in the Factory Hollow - Dutch Hollow period (1600) and are fairly common by the Dann-Marsh period (1650-1675). These human faces fall into four of the mask types the straight -lipped, whistling or blowing, blind, and possibly the animal masks. The prehistoric Iroquoian village at Richmond Mills has produced face pipes strongly suggestive of the crooked mouth mask. Other scattered prehistoric burials in the Genesee valley have produced whistling or blowing mask types.

Human faces are not uncommon as decorative devises on the rims of pottery vessels. These were present on the Adams site (1550) and continue till the use of pottery became obsolete (about 1687). Many of these faces are of the straight - lipped, crooked mouth, and whistling or blowing mask types.

Figurines or dolls of antler and wood often display mask-like faces. These were present from the Adams site time till about the Dann-Marsh period (1650-1675). The face of the mask also appears occasionally on antler combs and on the handles of wooden ladles. These were most abundant from 1650-1700.

In conclusion we may note that although no actual fragment of a mask has ever been discovered on any of the early historic Seneca sites, their counterpart, the more durable masket of stone, antler and shell has been found in sufficient quantities. Furthermore, recognized mask-like faces are found on pipes, combs, pottery, and the handles of wooden ladles. Most of these are present on the very earliest of the historic Seneca sites dating from approximately 1550 and reach a maximum in occurrence as early as 1600. There seems to be sufficient evidence to indicate the Seneca were acquainted with several of the face types present on later mask types long before the Huron wars. These mask types were the crooked mouth, straight -lipped, whistler or blowing, the blind, and possibly some of the animal types.

Report of Publication Committee to New York State
Archeological Association at its Annual Meeting

April 14, 1956, New York State Museum, Albany, N. Y.

Since the previous annual meeting, April 15, 1955, at the Rochester Museum of Arts and Sciences, three issues of THE BULLETIN (Nos. 4, 5 and 6) have been published under the editorship of Mr. Charles Knoll. Issue No. 4 was concerned with the activities of the annual meeting and the annual reports of the chapters. Issue No. 5 contained Mr. Knoll's excellent editorial on the relations between amateur and professional members, Dr. Fenton's report of the ninth conference on Iroquois research at Red House, Mr. Kidd's statistical analysis of trade axes, the description of a prehistoric Iroquois site by Miss Rosemary Mann, and the highly informative paper entitled "Some Seneca Songs from Tonawanda Reservation" by Dr. Charles E. Bartlett. Our President was heard from in Issue No. 6 with some very pertinent observations concerning the legitimate aims of archeologists. The issue also contained an analysis of the current state of affairs concerning the Association's publications, the first publication of a letter by the Jesuit Father Jean Pierron, a most valuable commentary by Dr. Fenton on the unique contribution of the Iroquois to anthropology, the description of a cache of graphite on Long Island by Mr. Roy Latham, and a useful summary of Seneca tobacco pipes by Mr. Charles F. Wray.

These contents are cited in some detail to call attention to the aim of the committee in general and Mr. Knoll in particular to publish in THE BULLETIN a diversified range of material bearing on all the interests of the Association: its official affairs, archeology, ethnology, early American history, even inter-member relations.

Copies were sent to the chapter secretaries in sufficient quantities for distribution to all members in good standing with three extra copies for chapter libraries. In addition, 35 copies were sent to the secretary of the Association for the exchanges (currently 32) and for promotional purposes. Actually copies were sent for distribution to all members indicated by chapter secretaries as being in good standing in chapters. This was done at the request of the President, and despite the executive committee's ruling that members must be in good standing in the Association,* because there appeared to be some misunderstanding regarding payment of dues to the Association by some chapters. In the future, however, unless the committee directs otherwise, the Executive Committee's ruling of April 15, 1955 will be adhered to strictly.¹

1. Actually an amendment to the Association's by-laws, duly voted by the membership at the 1955 meeting, recorded in BULLETIN No. 4 --Editor

This is the first year that the Association has operated with a separate publication fund, on deposit at the University-Culver Branch, Genesee Valley Union Trust Company, Rochester, N. Y. The following is the report of the income, disbursements, and balance.

Income:

From dues	\$412.69	
Sales of Publications		
Dutch Hollow	28.88	(14 copies)
Bulletin No. 3	5.58	(31 copies to Morgan Chapter @ .18 each)
Bulletin No. 5	3.50	(10 copies to Dr. Bartlett @ .35each)
Interest on Note with Fort Anne Restoration Corporation	<u>1.63</u>	
	\$452.28	

Disbursements:

Bulletin No. 1 and No. 2 (postage)	\$ 1.00
Bulletin No. 3 (Preparation, \$72.80, Postage \$1.20)	73.20 (16 pages, 405 copies)
Bulletin No. 4 (Preparation, \$70.60, Postage \$1.28)	71.88 (16 pages, 403 copies)
Bulletin No. 5 (Preparation, \$79.80, Postage \$1.51)	81.31 (16 pages, 410 copies)
Bulletin No. 6 (Preparation, \$58.80*, Postage \$2.39)	61.19 (16 pages, 405 copies)
Dutch Hollow, postage	<u>2.37</u>
	\$290.95

Balance in Publication Fund	\$61.33
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*Bill for making stencils not yet rendered.

It is necessary at this time to report to the Association regarding some special sales and consignment arrangements of the Researches and Transactions, Volume 13, No. 1, 1954 - "The Dutch Hollow" report. Following preliminary negotiations conducted by Mr. B. Frank Hodges, 25 copies each were sent to Fort William Henry and Fort Ticonderoga with an understanding that a net of 66 2/3% of the list price would accrue to the Association from all copies sold. Three copies have been sold at Fort William Henry for which the Association has received \$4.50. This arrangement has been extended to the end of the 1956 tourist season. Through an error the copies to Fort Ticonderoga were misdirected and were not located until the 1955 season was well advanced. Accordingly, the report on these copies also has been postponed until the fall of 1956. In 1954, an arrangement for the sale of 60 copies of the "Dutch Hollow" report at a price of \$65.00 was made with Fort Anne Restoration Corporation. These copies were forwarded on credit with the understanding that payment would be made at the end of the 1954 tourist season. Affairs at Fort Anne did not go well and payment could not be made. At our suggestion, this bill was covered by a 6-month note at 5% on May 3, 1955, subsequently renewed for 6 months on November 3, 1955. It is understood by all parties that this matter will be fully resolved in the fall of 1956 if the Fort Anne Restoration Corporation has not paid the bill prior to that time.

Although no issues of the Researches and Transactions were produced during the past fiscal year, considerable thought has been given by various members of the publication committee and of the Association to future issues. The current situation was alluded to in part in the article, "Your Association and Its Publications," in the No. 6 issue of THE BULLETIN. More specifically, Mr. Wray has proposed a series of articles on all phases of Seneca archeology, ethnology, and anthropology. He has already begun work on the archeologic aspects and has proposed the collaboration of Dr. Ritchie, Dr. Guthe, Dr. Fenton and others on other parts of this study. Mr. Roy Latham has indicated that he will be presenting for publication in late 1956 his long-awaited study on the Orient focus. Mr. Kenneth Kidd has accepted an invitation to publish in the Researches and Transactions a definitive study of Iroquois beads. Negotiations for outside financing of this paper, particularly its illustration, are underway. Mr. A. M. Stewart's work on the earliest European contacts with New York Indians is under consideration. Assistance in the financing of this paper is in prospect also.

Earlier in this report, it was indicated that there is currently a surplus in the publication fund. We believe some further income from dues will accrue to this fund. Also, based on past experience, \$25 to \$35 should result from the sale of publications. It is assumed that when an issue of the Researches and Transactions is decided upon, presumably early in 1957, it may be possible to transfer some funds from the Association's general treasury. Also, the executive committee of Morgan chapter has indicated that it will seriously consider a contribution for this purpose. Projecting this situation one year hence with

the accumulation of new dues it is not unreasonable to estimate that as much as \$1000 might be available from the various sources cited. Everything possible will be done as well to invite outside financial support. However, since there is nothing definite in prospect of this nature at this time, it must be assumed that the Association will have to depend primarily on itself for its financing. Recent experience shows that \$1500 to \$2000 will be required for an issue. All this indicates the need for financial contributions from chapters and individual members to make certain the continued publication of the Researches and Transactions. As indicated in the article referred to above, publication of the Researches and Transactions is regarded as an extremely important activity of the Association. Its support from every possible legitimate source is essential.¹

In addition to the chairman, the present publication committee is composed of the following members: Mr. B. Frank Hodges, 12 May Street, Glens Falls, New York. (Auringer-Seelye); Dr. H. N. MacCracken, 87 New Hackensack Road, Poughkeepsie, New York. (Mid-Hudson); Mrs. Dorothy Raynor, Box 57, Eastport, Long Island, New York. (Long Island); Mr. Edward Sheehan, Old Court House, Fonda, New York. (Van Epps-Hartley); Mr. Schuyler Miller, 4805 Centre Avenue, Pittsburgh, 13, Pennsylvania. (Van Epps-Hartley); Mr. Charles M. Knoll, 120 Coolidge Avenue, Spencerport, New York. Editor. (Lewis H. Morgan).

Due to geographical separation and a busy schedule, it has not been possible, regrettably, for the chairman to report all aspects of the publications activities to the committee although all received an advance copy of the article in BULLETIN No. 6, and of this report. Several commented most usefully on the article and one or two wrote frequently during the year to make other desirable suggestions. The chairman was able, of course, to work closely with the editor and also receive valuable help from Dr. Ritchie, Dr. Guthe, Mr. Wray and others. To all these I wish to express my very real thanks.

Two new applications for the exchange of publications were received during the year and are now recommended for acceptance by the Executive Committee:

The General Library
 Gifts and Exchange Department
 University of California
 Berkeley, California

Archeological Society of Delaware
 Dr. A. G. Schiek, (Editor)
 Myrtle Avenue
 Claymont, Delaware

William S. Cornwell
 Chairman, Publications Comm.
 N.Y.S.A.A.

1. The following contributions to the publication fund were made since the above report was presented: \$25 from Long Island chapter, \$83.50 from Auringer-Seelye chapter, \$50 from Morgan Chapter –Editor

Morgan Chapter Dig

On Saturday, June 16, 1956, about forty members and guests of Morgan Chapter carried on an all-day "dig" south of Geneseo, New York. The Appleshed Site, Cda 10-4, sometimes known as the Warehouse Site, is on the Wadsworth estate. William Wadsworth kindly gave permission for the group dig to Al Hoffman of Holcomb who was in charge of the arrangements.

The area of occupation covered approximately half an acre on the edge of a terrace above the Genesee River. Two additional ravines join the valley north and south of the site so that the area was naturally protected on three sides.

Prior to the dig, the site was surveyed and base lines laid out by a Rochester Museum field party so that a grid could be easily laid over any area that looked promising. Ted Guthe and Marian White supervised the excavation. Digging was confined to five foot squares, 18 of which were excavated, scattered randomly over the site. In all areas the depth of refuse was shallow, averaging about six inches. Artifacts were rather scarce but it is hoped that from a study of the sample recovered by the group plus samples in several private collections the chronological position of the major occupation may be determined.

The material and field notes from the day's activities are on deposit at the Rochester Museum of Arts and Sciences until next fall and are now being processed. A few preliminary interpretations can be made from a superficial examination of the material. Typologically at least two occupations occurred on the site but the shallow nature of the refuse makes it impossible to separate the two stratigraphically. The earlier Archaic occupation is represented by a few notched points. To a latter Iroquois occupation can be assigned the triangular points, pottery and pipe fragments. The abundant flint chips and numerous net sinkers may be the products of either or both occupations. Refuse bone and bone artifacts were very scarce, with fresh-water clam shells occurring about as frequently.

The bulk of the material recovered pertains to the Iroquois occupation of the site. Probably the pottery will be the most useful for suggesting the chronological position of the group who lived here. Because of the small number of sherds recovered, a count of various types or attributes will probably be meaningless but the presence of certain pottery features serve to indicate the general chronological position.

Both undecorated and decorated rim sherds occur with the latter being in the majority. Most of the decorated rims have a design of horizontal

lines while the familiar chevron design is absent. The horizontal lines are executed in incised, interrupted linear, punctuate and cord-wrapped stick impressed techniques. Collars are poorly developed. The tempering material is grit. The body sherds have a smooth surface finish, or were impressed with a cord wrapped paddle and check stamp.

Points are equilateral, and isosceles triangles, with forms that would be at home on either local Iroquois sites or on the Sackett (Owasco) site but no broad based Owasco triangles are present. Several fragments of pipe bowls and stems are recovered. Undecorated trumpet forms without an extreme flare are most frequent. Straight-sided undecorated and incised bowl fragments are present. The ringbowl is absent.

The general impression is one of a transitional Iroquois site, with a thin refuse deposit, indicating either a short occupation or a small group of inhabitants, or both. Similarities are seen between the material from here and the Hummel site in the Bristol Hills and the Oakfield site in Genesee county.

The site was chosen for investigation because surface collections from it had suggested that it might have been occupied by an Iroquois group. Other Iroquois sites are known to the north, the prehistoric Belcher site and Reed Fort, Richmond Mills, about 15 miles northeast and the historic Seneca sites, stretching farther to the north. The importance of the Appleshed site lies in a determination of its relationship to other sites as a possible ancestor for historic Seneca or Cayuga.

(Marian E. White)

BOOK REVIEW, Mayer-Oakes, William J. Prehistory of the Upper Ohio Valley; an Introductory Archeological Study, Anthropological Series, No. 2. Annals of Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Volume 34, 1955.

This 295 page book is a report on an intensive archeological survey of the Upper Ohio Valley. It is based upon work conducted over a three year period in parts of five states (Maryland, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia). Mayer-Oakes began this survey in February, 1950 for the Carnegie Museum in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania with the aid of a grant to the museum for this specific purpose. The project came to be referred to as the UOVAS, which is formed by the initial letters of the full name: Upper Ohio Valley Archeological Survey. This publication constitutes the principal report of the work accomplished during the 1950-1953 period by the UOVAS.

Although its author carefully points out that this is a preliminary synthesis of the archeological information gained in the Upper Ohio valley, it will unquestionably remain a primary source of information for students of the area, and others wishing to obtain some knowledge of the prehistory of

that area. Before Mayer-Oakes undertook this survey, the Upper Ohio valley was an archeologically underdeveloped area. To be sure some archeological work had been done in the area and the results of some of this had been published. However, no concerted effort had been made to collect and interpret this information for the entire Upper Ohio valley.

The results of the UOVAS are presented in terms of the major drainage areas in the Upper Ohio valley; i.e. the Allegheny, Beaver, Monongahela and Ohio. Within each of these areas, the material representing the several periods of occupation are discussed and illustrated. The framework for the periods is: Early Hunter (8000 B. C. - 3000 B. C.); Archaic (3000 B. C. - 1000 B.C.); Early Woodland (1000 B. C. - 100 B. C.); Middle Woodland (100 B.C. - 900 A.D.); Late pre-historic (900 A.D.- 1600 A.D.); Historic 1600 A.D, to present). This makes it possible for one to study the material from each sub-area separately, or to compare the material from each of the several periods in the entire region. This summary is followed by a formal presentation of the pottery types found in the area and how they were recognized.

This book provides more than a summary of the UOVAS program. It also indicates the many facets to archeological work. There -are sections which deal with the natural environment of the area, the analytical procedure followed during the survey, a history of archeological work in the area, and statements regarding still existing problems as well as recommendations for further work. The section dealing with the analytical procedure of the survey presents forms used in recording information. These are applicable to archeological work in any area.

This book is written for the experienced and inexperienced student of archeology. A popular summary of the UOVAS results comprises its first 25 pages. Throughout the book care is taken to distinguish fact from interpretation. The author's style is direct and modest. He recognizes the invaluable help rendered by local archeologists and submits the hope that his contact with them has provided them with additional insight and information. He and his co-worker, Don W. Dragoo, worked with more than 100 local archeologists. The resultant savings in time and energy cannot be minimized.

(Alfred K. Guthe)

LONG -ISLAND CHAPTER - Secretary J, H., Husing reports that exhibits are being maintained at Riverhead museum and Southold high school. Search for surface materials on farms and beaches continue. A chapter member has delivered lectures before local clubs and other societies.